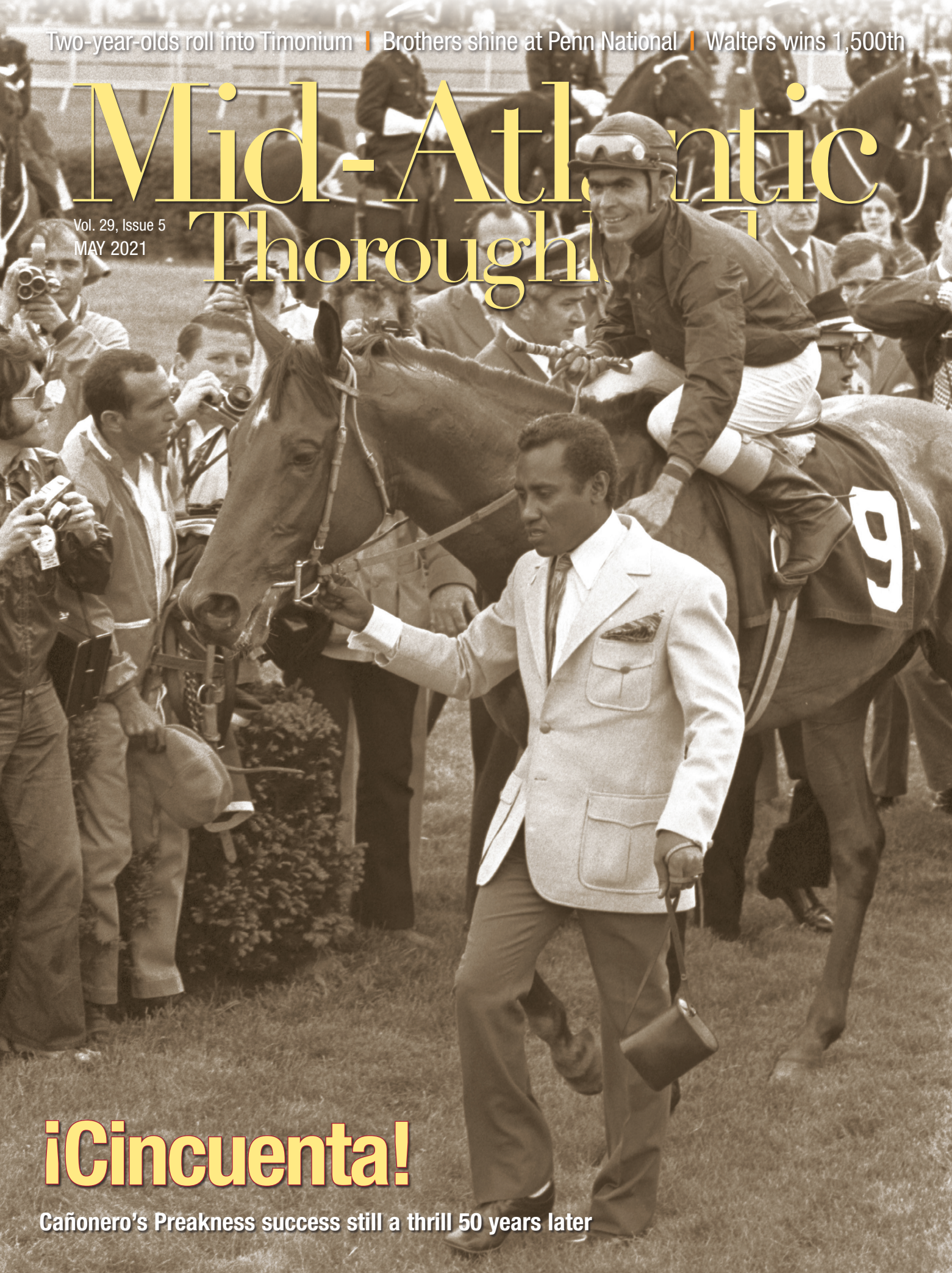
Two-year-olds roll into Timonium | Brothers shine at Penn National | Walters wins 1,500th

# Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 29, Issue 5
MAY 2021



## ¡Cincuenta!

**Cañonero's Preakness success still a thrill 50 years later**

# Come with us to the Preakness 2-Y-O Sale

Ellen B. Pons

Fasig-Tipton Photo

On May 17-18 at the Timonium Fairgrounds, Country Life Farm will be shopping for juveniles at the Fasig-Tipton 2-Year-Olds in Training sale to add to our Laurel/Fair Hill-based racing stable.

Pictured above at our Merryland Training Center is the $75,000 Hard Spun filly we bought at the Fasig-Tipton Florida sale in March. Sold out in one day to 10 partners: 1. Brdecka/Stuart (IL), 2. Cape Fear T'breds (NC), 3. Country Life Farm (MD), 4. Tony Dale (MD), 5. Denin/Denin (MD), 6. Ed Furman (MD), 7. Goldman/Kreitzberg (FL), 8. Guidera/McKinney (MD), 9. Sally Robertson (OH), 10. Zafir/Zafir (MD).

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# Midlantic

## TWO-YEAR-OLDS IN TRAINING

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Page 26

FASIG-TIPTON PHOTO

# In this issue

## Fifty years ago, Cañonero stole the show

From Venezuela, with precious little advance notice and plenty of ability, 3-year-old colt Cañonero set racing alight in 1971 when he upset the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness Stakes for a team of dreamers. By Milt Toby. Page 20

## Back on track, May juvenile sale ready for action

Delayed until late June due to the Covid-19 pandemic last year, Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's flagship sale returns to May and brings plenty of optimism for consignors. Plus a look at what it's like—and what it takes—to ride a speeding 2-year-old Thoroughbred at the sale. By Joe Clancy. Page 26

## Virginia-bred Chess Chief makes the grade

Twenty-three starts in his career, 5-year-old Chess Chief becomes a stakes winner in the Grade 2 New Orleans Classic. And it all began with broodmare Un Blessed at Morgan's Ford Farm. By Sara Gordon. Page 34

## Walters finds his milestone

Charles Town trainer David Walters, whose career began with five starts in 1978, reaches 1,500 victories—much to the joy of his family. By Paul Halloran. Page 38

**Cover: Cañonero heads to the winner's circle after adding the Preakness to his Kentucky Derby victory in 1971.** Photo by Skip Ball.

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August 21

**$75,000 STAR DE NASKRA** 3YO, 7 furlongs

**$75,000 MISS DISCO** 3YO, Fillies, 7 furlongs

**$75,000 FIND** 3YO & Up, 1 1/16 miles, Turf

**$75,000 ALL BRANDY** 3YO & Up, Fillies and Mares, 1 1/16 miles, Turf

November 26

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**$75,000 POLITELY** 3YO & Up, Fillies and Mares, 6 furlongs

December 4

**$100,000 MD JUVENILE FUTURITY** 2YO, 7 furlongs

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Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Volume 29, Issue 5

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# POST TIME

**TAIL OF TWO HORSES.** In a 1990s classic, a foal finds a unique way to get mom's attention.

*Neena Ewing Collection/Maryland Horse Library*
*marylandhorse.com*

# Say It Again

"When the time does come for him to retire and move on to another career, my plan is to turn him into a riding horse for me. He has a forever home with me when he is done racing. Everyone has their heart horse, and he is mine."
*Trainer Kim Graci, about 11-time winner Intercept*

"I am delighted for them. First of all, I got breeder money and second of all if I'm selling a horse for a small amount of money, they're going to come back and buy from me because they had a positive experience."
*Breeder Larry Karp, on selling Wiretap privately, watching her win twice and get claimed for $10,000*

"He was unbelievable. I had to twist Henry Carroll's arm to get him to buy him. He put a group together to get it done."
*Consignor Kip Elser, on selling future Eclipse Award-winning sprint champion Smoke Glacken for $65,000 at Fasig-Tipton in 1996; the Maryland-bred won 10 of 14 starts and earned $759,560.*

"The whole 2-year-old business is one of adapting. You adapt to everything that comes your way—a horse gets a temperature, a horse gets a cough, a skin disease, something is always happening and you have to change how you do things."
*Consignor Cary Frommer, on adapting to Covid and other variables*

"Most of it is you've got to be lucky and if you've met my wife, you know I'm a lucky guy."
*Consignor Al Pike, on finding success in the pinhooking business*

ROBERT KELLER

*Maryland-bred Road to Oz won his timber debut—going 3 miles—at My Lady's Manor April 10. His only flat win in 15 starts came at a mile.*

"You can print that."
*Pike, following up on his previous comment*

"Don't worry, our outfit will look good. We'll set it up and make sure we have ourselves looking good. I'm from the Wayne Lukas connection, we grew up together, so you can't help but look good with that background."
*Trainer Todd Beattie, who showcases his first sales consignment this year*

"I knew I should have run him farther."
*Trainer Mike Trombetta, after former trainee Road to Oz won a 3-mile timber race in April*

## GO FIGURE

**0** Winners among the 15 most-expensive horses at last year's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old sale (through April 14).

**3** Winners among the 15 least-expensive horses at last year's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-year-old sale (through April 14).

**64** Top-three finishes in 126 starts for $600,720 in earnings for Listen In's five foals to race (through April 14).

## NAMES OF THE MONTH

**Did I Stutter.** The 4-year-old filly, a winner of four straight in 2021 including one at Parx in April, is by Alternation out of Feisty.

**Scotty Silver.** Pennsylvania owner/trainer Andy Simoff paid tribute to his favorite jockeys' agent with this 3-year-old son of Alternation.

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# IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE VIRGINIA-CERTIFIED PROGRAM

**The Virginia Thoroughbred Association (VTA) announces two very important changes to the Virginia-Certified Program effective 4/1/2021. These changes will affect all horses currently registered in the Virginia-Certified Program (horses registered prior to 4/1/2021) as well as those that are registered on or after 4/1/2021.**

1. As of 4/1/2021, when a registered Virginia-Certified horse wins an eligible race in the Mid-Atlantic region (NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, WV & VA) the Virginia-Certified bonus will be paid to the person or entity that owned the horse when it made its first start, from now on referred to as the "Developer".
2. As of 4/1/2021, when a registered Virginia-Certified horse wins a restricted West Virginia state-bred race of any kind, the Virginia-Certified bonus will be calculated as 10% of the lesser of (i) the winner's purse share published on the Equibase chart or (ii) 60% of the published purse on the overnight.

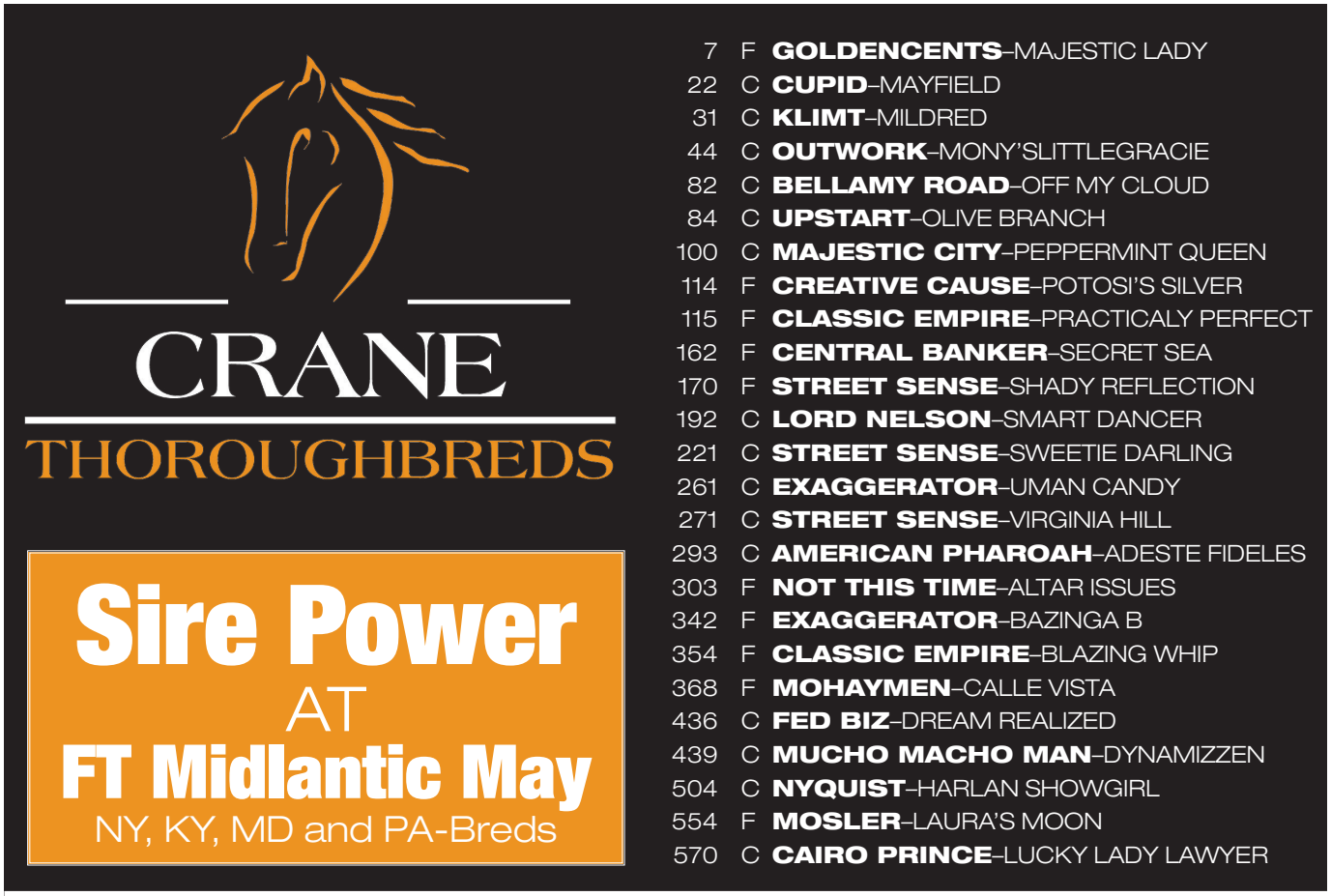
**For Virginia-Certified program details visit**
**www.vabred.org/virginia-certified-horses-residency-program**
**If you have any questions concerning these changes, contact**
**Debbie Easter at 434-977-3716 or debbie.easter@easterassociates.com.**

# MILESTONES

**Returned:** After the 2020 hiatus because of Covid-19 restrictions, the Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championships Series, under a schedule put together by horsemen and racetracks in Maryland and Virginia until the full series is restored in 2022. This year will feature 20 stakes in Maryland and four at Colonial Downs in Virginia–valued at $2.75 million, starting May 14 at Pimlico Race Course and running through Dec. 26 at Laurel Park. There will be four divisions, all on dirt, and $282,000 in bonus money (3 and up, fillies and mares–sprint; 3 and up–sprint; 3 and up, fillies and mares–long; and, 3 and up–long). "This is a tremendous demonstration of support and cooperation by the Maryland and Virginia horsemen and racetracks, and I am deeply appreciative of their desire to maintain the MATCH brand through these difficult times for racing," said series creator Alan Foreman.

**Named:** President and CEO of the Fair Hill Foundation, Maryland horseman Charlie Fenwick. He succeeds Jay Griswold, who was named co-chair emeritus with founder Sam Slater. The Fair Hill Foundation will focus on supporting October's inaugural 5 Star event by raising funds for prize money and operations. A former steeplechase jockey and trainer, and current owner, Fenwick brings experience in non-profit fundraising as a member of the Greater Baltimore Medical Center and Gilman School boards and as a past president of the Temple Gwathmey Steeplechase Foundation and chair of the Shawan Downs steeplechase races. Established in 2016 to support modernization of the racecourse and construction of new eventing facilities, the foundation is partnering with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to complete these improvements. "Maryland is exceptionally fortunate to have had Jay Griswold's vision for the creation of a world-class equine competition facility at Fair Hill," said Tom Kelso, chairman of the Maryland Stadium Authority and ex-officio member of the Fair Hill Host Organizing Committee. "His leadership and determination were critical to the decision by the Fédération Equestre Internationale to award Maryland the CCI5* eventing competition and the state's completion of the beautiful new facilities on the site."

**Returned:** Stakes races to Pennsylvania's Parx Racing in 2021 after nearly all of the stakes program was lost in 2020 due to the pandemic. The slate features 25 stakes and purses of more than $5 million headlined by the $1 million (each) Pennsylvania Derby-G1 and Cotillion-G1. Those two major races anchor the Sept. 25 card including the Gallant Bob-G2, Greenwood Cup-G3, Dr. James Penny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192 C LORD NELSON–SMART DANCER
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261 C EXAGGERATOR–UMAN CANDY
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# MILESTONES

Memorial-G3 and Turf Monster-G3. The inaugural Pennsylvania Derby/Cotillion Preview Day will be run Aug. 24, featuring the Smarty Jones-G3, Parx Dash-G3 and Cathryn Sophia stakes. The owner and trainer of a horse sweeping the Smarty Jones and Pennsylvania Derby will earn $50,000 bonuses, with the same reward offered for taking the Cathryn Sophia and Cotillion.

**Sold:** At Fasig-Tipton's The Gulfstream Sale of March 31 in Hallandale, Fla., two six-figure 2-year-olds bred in Pennsylvania. Chestnut colt Torpedo Run (right), from the first crop of Gun Runner, sold for $450,000 to Sean Flanagan, John C. Kimmel, agent. Out of the Stormy Atlantic mare Stormy Tak, a daughter of multiple Grade 1-winning sprinter and millionaire Lady Tak, he was bred by Jon Marshall. Last October the colt topped the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale at $270,000. A gray/roan Arrogate filly bred by Blackstone

FASIG-TIPTON PHOTO

Farm out of Group 3 stakes producer Mahkama, by Bernardini, was purchased by Live Oak Plantation for $330,000. She sold for $300,000 as a weanling at Keeneland November. Her dam is a half-sister to graded winner Summer Raven, dam of millionaire Lewis Bay (by Bernardini) and additional graded winners Misconnect and Winslow Homer.

## THE RACING BIZ

The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

**Midlantic equine fatality rate declined in 2020:** Mirroring a national trend, the rate of equine fatality in the Mid-Atlantic dropped in 2020 to its lowest level in the dozen years that records have been kept, reports Frank Vespe.

**Laurel Park winter meet–10 stories that mattered:** With the Laurel Park winter meet in the books, John Piassek looked back at 10 stories that mattered.

**Spurn, Moschonas having the last laugh:** Folks laughed when trainer Gerasimos Moschonas brought the undersized Spurn to the track–but after two straight wins, they're not laughing anymore. Ted Black tells the story.

**Farrior hoping patience pays off in Hemp:** Hemp galloped in a Laurel Park allowance in early April, giving trainer Anthony Farrior his first Maryland win since EHV-1 put his barn in quarantine. Vespe reports.

**Backtracks–Little Linus McAtee's big career:** Jennifer Kelly recalls the life of the diminutive Hall of Fame jockey nicknamed Pony who was born in New Jersey and grew up next to Pimlico.


GORMLEY

His first 2yos stole the show at OBS March:

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# Slam Dunk

## New announcer Griffin takes mic at Parx Racing

By Tom Law

Several years removed from his gig as announcer for the Harlem Globetrotters and Chris Griffin isn't about to let slip any intel on the world's most famous basketball team's pranks, secrets and plot twists.

"What pranks? First of all, it's a real game. It's basketball," Griffin said. "For whatever reason the Washington Generals always lost and I couldn't figure it out. It always seemed like they were going to win, but just could not get the job done."

Griffin, who took over the full-time position as announcer at Parx Racing April 12, spent six years announcing Globetrotters games all over the world. He went to more than two dozen countries—including Australia, New Zealand and even Qatar—and an estimated more than 500 cities and towns with the team founded in 1926.

The Globetrotters gig, along with another with the National Hot Rod Association, prepared him for the oft nomadic life in racing.

"What the Globetrotters did was create moments, create these really engaging moments with the fans, with the people interacting. It was just great for everyone," Griffin said. "You're also always traveling, six days a week, traveling on Mondays. It's a grind but the audience wants to see a great game. My job was just to narrate, keep them excited. Did I get a confetti bucket thrown on me once in awhile? Quite possible. I might have thought it was water. You never know.

"It was a great experience to make kids smile and to be a part of it. It's a great organization, I still know a lot of the people over there. Would they have guessed that I'd be a horse-racing track announcer? They probably didn't quite envision that."

Griffin might not have envisioned it either when he stepped into the announcer's booth occupied for three decades by Keith Jones before the first race on a cloudy and rainy mid-April Monday card. He arrived at Parx after finishing a stint at Sam Houston Race Park in Texas. Prior to that Griffin worked seasonal or fill-in announcing roles at the Humboldt County Fair in Ferndale, Ca., Portland Meadows, Los Alamitos, Gulfstream Park West and Monmouth Park.

"It was really important to me, and something I've learned from the other announcers I've become friends with, is

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**106** **WAR DANCER** filly o/o PINK TIGHTS *NY-bred*
**178** **LOOKIN AT LUCKY** gelding o/o SHIP AHOY *VA-bred*
**283** **UNIFIED** gelding o/o WINNING SEASON *KY-bred*
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you have to take a moment just to stand in the booth, look outside and realize the journey," Griffin said. "I started back in 2015 at the Humboldt County Fair calling the races at Ferndale. To get from there and to be here now in Pennsylvania and looking forward to some Grade 1 races and big race days, you have to take that moment in and enjoy that moment for just a bit. I did that before they popped the gates for the first race."

Griffin, 40, grew up in Santa Monica, Calif., not far from Hollywood Park, and was introduced to racing by his father.

"My dad would take me to the races. He moved to California from Kansas City, Missouri, and thought he was going to be a professional gambler," Griffin said. "I think that lasted about three or four months from the stories he told me. He loves the track and would take me when I was young. We'd go to Pomona for the races at Fairplex and to Santa Anita. When I got a little older I got the chance to head down to Del Mar and experience that. Of course I grew up close to Hollywood Park and on Friday nights that was the place to be on the West Coast."

While playing football and attending Santa Monica College, Griffin met eventual Eclipse Award-winning photographer Alex Evers, the two bonded over their love of racing and joked how "they were the two" fans of the game at the two-year community college. Griffin later met Frank Miramahdi, Santa Anita's current announcer who eventually helped Griffin land the job in Ferndale.

"I've taken a different route," Griffin said. "I did some baseball and some basketball early on. I've always been in the unique sports–the auto racing and the Globetrotters obviously is a very unique experience. Horse racing, as much as we want to get into mainstream, people might not think of it as one of the big four in the realm of sports, but we'll get there."

The chance to return to the East Coast, which Griffin did last September filling in for Miramahdi at the end of the Monmouth meeting, appealed to Griffin. He looks forward to calling Parx's major events planned for Sept. 25–the Pennsylvania Derby-G1 and Cotillion Stakes-G1, which were not run in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"This is a big sports market here and they love their sports," he said. "They are very, very passionate sports fans and I think we can make a bigger mark here at Parx Racing. We can really do some fun things and I'm excited to be a part of it."

Until Pennsylvania Derby Day Griffin will continue to work at his craft that started back in 2015 when he showed up at Humboldt to call a 220-yard mule race won by 1-9 favorite named Bad News Bubba.

"I worked hard to get to the point where I feel like I'm at the top of my game," he said. "That's the respect you have to show all the predecessors like a Keith Jones, like a Tom Durkin, like a Frank Miramahdi, like a Trevor Denman. When I step in the booth I'm living up to my personal expectations but also to peers and predecessors that came before.

"When you want to reach the top and want to be at the top of this game you put yourself in the right position to get those opportunities. I've been very forward about it. The appeal to calling Grade 1s, that's massive for an announcer. That's the top. I have so much respect for all the other announcers out there and feel blessed to have this opportunity to get this shot at Parx Racing, year-round, with a nice loyal fan base with the bettors that get involved. I'm excited for it." ✹


**Another Great Eddie Woods Consignment**

**Selling May 17 & 18 at Timonium • FT Midlantic 2YOs**

36 PRACTICAL JOKE–Miss Mary Pat colt
62 CUPID–My Curlina filly
108 NOBLE MISSION (GB)–Pleasant Cat filly
111 ARROGATE–Popover filly
113 EXAGGERATOR–Port Authority filly
143 CENTRAL BANKER–Sabouli filly
147 EMPIRE MAKER–Saltendipity colt
157 CURLIN–Sea Island colt
164 MALIBU MOON–Seeking Atlantis colt
194 CUPID–Snow colt
206 CONNECT–Starry Eyed Kate colt
211 QUALITY ROAD–Stormy Welcome colt
223 CONGRATS–Sweet On You colt
341 MINESHAFT–Bay Island colt
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# High Spirited

MAGGIE KIMMITT

*High Spirited, with Lezlie Hiner (left) and Work To Ride student Marisol Jimenez, is part of the fabric at the Philadelphia equestrian center.*

The Jockey Club recognizes him as High Spirited. Racegoers at Mid-Atlantic tracks in 2006-07 probably wouldn't recognize him at all. But in the realm of interscholastic polo, he's instantly recognized as "Cholo"–Chicano/Latino slang for gangster. His is a feel-good story. Call it rehabilitation, redemption, rebirth. But above all, call it what it is: the remarkable truth.

On the afternoon of Dec. 3, 2006, Lezlie Hiner, founder of Work To Ride in Philadelphia, brought one of her young students to watch High Spirited in the second race at Philadelphia Park.

Kareem Rosser, then 13, was ready for his next project horse, and Hiner believed the dark bay gelding was the perfect candidate. The casual convergence of those three paths set life-changing wheels in motion.

Hiner had been contacted by her long-time friend Kate Goldenberg who owns and operates Safe Haven Equine Rescue and is also High Spirited's breeder. Familiar with the Work To Ride program, Goldenberg frequently called Hiner when she had a suitable horse. This time, the two women had a different approach. High Spirited's owner, T-Bird Stable, transferred ownership to Work To Ride and the Pennsylvania-bred son of Judge T C and the Private Terms mare Personal Spirit raced in the organization's name while remaining in the barn of trainer Pam Shavelson. Shavelson waived her day rate for the group.

Unraced at 2, High Spirited made 14 starts at 3 in 2006 and ran once as a 4-year-old. He carried the Work To Ride silks in his final four starts. With Hiner and Rosser looking on that day, he finished third in a maiden claimer going 7 furlongs on the dirt. His new owners were pleased; the $1,262 he earned that day was a welcome boost to Work To Ride's coffers.

Hiner founded Work To Ride, Inc. as a 501(c)(3) non-profit in 1994. Since inception, it has been based at Chamounix Equestrian Center in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park. The group's website defines it as "a community-based prevention program that aids disadvantaged urban youth through constructive activities centered on horsemanship, equine sports and education."

"I started out of high school, worked at a small hunter/jumper farm in Horsham, Pennsylvania," Hiner began. "From there through a series of introductions I got my first racing job with [trainer] Ron Glorioso. Then after that I went to work for Bill Mott. I traveled with Mott to Oaklawn Park."

Post-racing, Hiner developed an interest in polo when introduced to the game by friends. Upon the development of Work To Ride, Hiner naturally passed that interest along to her students. She would often take the kids to polo games and farm them out as hotwalkers. They enjoyed making money for the jobs, but that soon turned into, "We want to play."

"That was part of our business plan actually," she said. "We'd get some OTTBs, train them for polo and sell them, and that money would be used for the kids for college. That was the genesis of the whole thing, and we had done it before at that point. But this was the first and only horse we owned while he was racing."

"He obviously wasn't going to break his maiden," Hiner said. "He was staying sound, and we thought rather than Pam putting more time and money into him, we'd let him run one last race, and if he didn't do well, we'd retire him. And that's what happened."

High Spirited finished fifth in the same conditions Jan. 17, 2007. He left Philadelphia Park for Chamounix the next day, taking with him statistics of 15-0-1-2 and an even $5,000 earned. Racing career over, he was re-christened by Rosser as Cholo, gangster polo pony.

"I immediately fell in love with him, just his calm demeanor," Rosser said. "You'd have had no idea he came right off the racetrack. I sat on him two days after his last race. I was just direct reining him, because all he knew how to do then was turn left. But I realized he had the potential to become a polo pony because he had just gotten done running and he was so relaxed."

Rosser was headed to school at Valley Forge Military Academy, so his time working with Cholo was limited. The first few months were spent learning the basics, and Rosser found his new project to be athletic, agreeable and a very quick learner.

There was just one catch. Due to a chronic condition with a type of fungus in his ear, Cholo would never–and still will not–tolerate being bridled. His objections

were so strong that Hiner and Rosser opted to take the bridle apart each time they tacked him up rather than cause him the undue stress of pulling it over his ears and poll.

"I got to the point where I would put on a halter and two lead ropes and just ride him around," Rosser said. "I'd put on a saddle and ride him in his halter because it was such a pain in the butt to try to get the bridle on. And I was shorter at that time, so he knew he could kinda get over on me because I couldn't reach his head."

The horse made it up to Rosser in many other ways.

"Cholo was always meant to be Kareem's horse," Hiner said. When life at Valley Forge proved difficult, Hiner sent the gelding to live on campus with Rosser.

"Midway through my first year there, I was just struggling mentally, and Lezlie thought it would be good to send Cholo to me," Rosser said. "And I wanted to continue to work with him. It was great to have him there. After classes I was able to go to the barn and ride my own horse."

The pair continued to progress and excel. Cholo proved a rarity among polo mounts—a horse who played in a plain snaffle bit.

"That was another thing that was really special about him," Rosser said. "He had an exceptionally soft mouth, and polo players love that."

Other players noticed Cholo. The horse helped Rosser become one of the premier interscholastic polo players in the country. While still a teenager, he played in Asia, Africa, Europe, South America and Nigeria. In 2011, Rosser, younger brother Daymar and two friends played for the Work To Ride team and became the first African American squad to win a major national polo championship. In 2015, Rosser brought Colorado State University's polo team the National Intercollegiate Championship. He was also named Intercollegiate Player of the Year and Polo Training Foundation's Player of the Year.

Earlier this year, Rosser released his memoir, *Crossing the Line: A Fearless Team of Brothers and the Sport That Changed Their Lives Forever*. Cholo figures prominently throughout Rosser's story.

"When I first met Cholo I was in eighth grade, and now I'm 28. It's crazy to think about that," Rosser said. "I was just a little boy, and now I'm five years into my career [in finance]. I still get over to see him, but he's had some back issues and sees a chiropractor, so just the little kids get on him now. But I'd love to ride him, because he's still one of my favorites. He's a superstar."

That's a sentiment echoed by everyone at Work To Ride. The 18-year-old Pennsylvania-bred gelding who never won a race plays an important role.

"Cholo is still very active, still competing at polo matches. He's got such a great attitude," Hiner said. "He's not retired at all. Too many kids to remember have learned to play on him. Not a whole lot rattles him. I could put a 5-year-old or a 35-year-old on him. He's my Steady Eddie—I use him for everything."

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TOD MARKS

# Bits and pieces

Weren't we just here? The 146th Preakness Stakes, and all its connection to big-time racing, returns to the region, to Maryland, to historic Pimlico Race Course—seven months after the race's 145th running. That's right, Covid-19 sent the middle-of-May classic to the beginning of October in 2020.

That still doesn't sound right, and boy does it feel good to at least have the schedule make sense in 2021. Much of the rest still seems like some kind of upside-down bad dream—limited fans, limited media access, social distancing, masks, vaccines and so on. Pimlico received approval from state and local health authorities to host 10,000 people for the Preakness, Saturday, May 15. That's not nearly enough to make it feel like Preakness Day, but it will have to do.

I was at the 2020 Preakness, and never want to do that again. There was no buzz, no thumping music in the infield, no screaming crowd as the horses left the gate, no crush of people caught on the turf course as the minutes to post clicked down, no celebrities (Bob Baffert and Mike Smith don't count and neither does Larry Hogan). Only the race—bravo Swiss Skydiver and Authentic—was Preakness-like.

The 2021 version won't feel like normal, but it might feel like one more step toward normal. Let's take it.

• • •

Check out Milt Toby's feature on Cañonero. It's been 50 years since the Venezuelan wonder horse won the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness. How much fun would it be if a Cañonero showed up again? I guess the Derby is out because such a horse would never have enough points to make the field of 20. But the Preakness and Belmont would work. Sadly, today's racing world doesn't cultivate many Cañoneros—a horse whose owner and trainer simply didn't care that they were improbable longshots. They liked their horse, and they took a chance. If a 3-year-old won four races and showed Triple Crown promise in Venezuela in 2021, some international bloodstock agent would have computed Beyer Speed Figures and sold the horse to a partnership of hedge-fund dudes. Cañonero would be in the barn of Bob Baffert or Brad Cox or Chad Brown, and the story wouldn't be nearly as good.

• • •

Sometimes I forget, but talking to people about horses might be the best part of my job and the conversations around the story about Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's 2-year-old sale proved it yet again. Thanks everybody.

• • •

Last month's column in this space generated plenty of attention, fueled by internet chatter and links from other sections of the Thoroughbred industry. Thanks for reading, and for caring. My words didn't offer solutions to the problems facing the sport, but the main conclusion to me is that the actions of a single person or entity can impact far more than anyone realizes. What might look like harmless corner-cutting or a one-off lapse in judgment might put an entire sport in jeopardy. Remember that.

• • •

Mid-Atlantic states should be more prepared than ever to defend their portion of revenue from casinos. People get it, racing needed to be supported when slot machines became realities in Delaware, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland and beyond because the industry supports jobs, animals, farmland, open space and so on. Racing mattered, and states were opening the gate to additional forms of gambling which would impact gambling on horse races. Carving off a piece of the revenue for racing made sense. Still does. But now, all these years later, those same states face constant pressure to do more with limited revenue streams. Big picture, slots contributions to racing need to go beyond purses and address aftercare, horse health and safety, jockey health and safety, backstretch and farm worker conditions, breeding and stallion farms and . . . well, the list could just keep going.

Think about it, get outside help, go above and beyond, literally audit your contribution from slots. Purses and racing days are part of it, always will be, but draw a bigger ring. And make sure you're touching as many segments of the industry as you can. Make the case that racing deserves that money. Be good stewards of it. Compare your state's program to others. Change if you need to.

• • •

You ever really consider the people who work with racehorses? Is it a career, or just a job? I know, I know, people do it because they love it, because it's a passion, because they're working their way up the ladder. The long hours and difficult schedule are all part of the process. But, could it be different? I hear of the one-day-off-every-two-weeks schedule and cringe. Who would do that, for very long, and not feel overwhelmed? Or at least overworked? Again, I get it, they're animals. They need to be taken care of every day. But the trainer who figures out how to hire enough staff to have a five-day work week will have people lining up at the tackroom door. ✹

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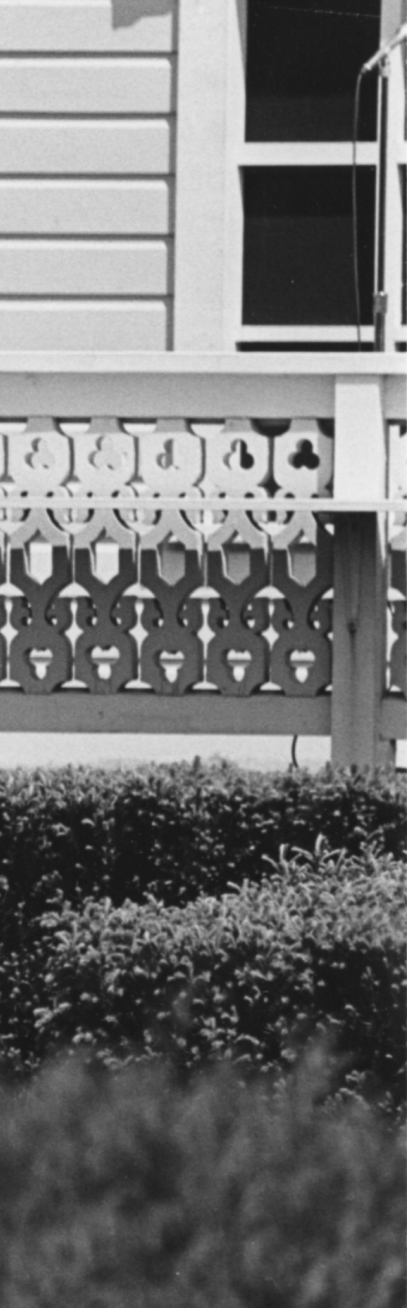
# ¡Viva Cañonero!

## Unlikely story of Venezuelan superstar who won Derby, Preakness still amazes

By Milton C. Toby



SKIP BALL COLLECTION/MARYLANDHORSE LIBRARY

For five glorious weeks in the spring of 1971—50 years ago now—an unlikely trio of men from Venezuela chased the Triple Crown and almost won it with a horse hardly anyone had heard of on Kentucky Derby Day.

For the late Pedro Baptista Sr., the owner of Cañonero II; Juan Arias, who trained the colt; and Gustavo Avila, who rode him, the Triple Crown run was a thrill for the ages, made even sweeter because it almost didn't happen.

Given all the things that could have gone wrong—and the things that eventually did—it was a miracle the bold plan succeeded as well as it did.

• • •

A day in mid-February, with the deadline for nominations to the 1971 Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes, and Belmont Stakes approaching, Charles J. Lang Jr.'s lunch was interrupted by a bizarre telephone call. A tireless promoter for Pimlico and the Preakness, "Chick" Lang was in Miami trying to drum up horses for the race. On the other end of the line was a stranger, a friend of Baptista's, who had tracked down Lang. He said that he wanted to nominate a horse for the Triple Crown.

Lang listened for a minute or two and then decided that it was either a crank call or maybe just a joke concocted by one of his friends. The caller wasn't sure how to spell Cañonero's name or the name of his sire (*Pretendre), Lang recalled later, and he thought that the man's accent sounded fake. He took down the information, ended the call and crumpled the paper into a ball. He started to toss it into the trash but then thought better of it. Maybe it was legitimate after all.

Instead, Lang entered the nomination for the Preakness and passed Cañonero II's name on to the officials taking nominations for the Derby and Belmont. The colt was one of 220 horses nominated for the Derby that year, 179 for the Preakness and 166 for the Belmont Stakes. Lang probably didn't give the Venezuelans another thought until the first Saturday in May.

Cañonero II arrived at Churchill Downs in late April with modest credentials, no confirmed stabling arrangements and looking like anything except a Derby contender. What should have been a direct flight from Caracas to Miami was a disaster from the start, and his physical condition when he got to Kentucky showed it. The first plane developed engine trouble shortly after takeoff and returned to the airport. The replacement aircraft also developed mechanical problems, this time over the Caribbean, and was diverted to Panama. After another delay, Cañonero II finally made the trip to the United States on a cargo plane packed with livestock and crates of raucous poultry.

Things got worse in Miami. There was confusion about Cañonero II's health papers, understandable because he arrived on U.S. soil without the necessary documentation during an outbreak of Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis. After several hours on the tarmac in the sweltering Florida sun, he was finally unloaded and taken directly to a United States Department of Agriculture quarantine facility. He languished there for four days, confined to a stall without any exercise until he was cleared for travel to Kentucky. He arrived at Churchill Downs after a 24-hour, non-stop van ride dehydrated, listless and with a dull coat. The colt had lost at least 70 pounds, probably more, during the ordeal.

Once Cañonero II settled in and the cooler spring weather in Kentucky began to agree with him, he started looking better and more fit. Arias took his time with the colt, not rushing, favoring long, slow gallops with an uncommonly large exercise rider who rode with only a saddle pad and no stirrups. Cañonero II's few timed workouts were ridiculously slow.

In the days leading up to the Derby, the press either ignored Cañonero II and his trainer or, as was more often the case, they ridiculed him mercilessly. Arias was cast as likable and laughable but an outsider, hopelessly out of his league with a horse who was outclassed. It didn't help matters that Arias and the others in the Cañonero II camp spoke little English, which led to confusion and misunderstandings. When Calumet Farm trainer Reggie Cornell said that he never had seen so much "garbage" in a Derby, Arias learned of the insult, and he was infuriated. You could criticize him, he thought, but not his horse. Arias was confident that Cañonero II was where he belonged, in one of the most famous races in the world.

Pedro Baptista Jr., the owner's son, recalled the pre-Derby experience during an interview with filmmaker Salomon Gill several years later. The Hispanic trainers, jock-

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*Cañonero streaks toward the finish line with the Kentucky Derby upset.*

eys, and backstretch workers were incredibly supportive, he said, but the people at Churchill Downs were not. The Venezuelans were left out of press conferences, and party invitations arrived late if they came at all.

"Their attitude," the younger Baptista said, "was that we were crazy and that we didn't have any chance to win the race with Cañonero II."

The colt was part of the six-horse mutuel field for on-track betting, where $2 to win would pay $19.40. A winning bet on Cañonero II in New York's off-track shops, where the colt was listed individually, would pay three times as much. Track handicapper Mike Battaglia, who set the opening odds, went a step further and speculated that Cañonero II would have gone off at odds approaching 100-1 if he had been uncoupled from the field.

The critics were wrong about Cañonero II, although that wasn't immediately obvious during the early running of the Derby.

The first time past the stands, Avila had Cañonero II far back in the crowded 20-horse field. It was where Avila wanted to be, away from the bumping and rough traffic at the front. The colt finally got his first call from the track announcer 56 seconds after the start, almost halfway through the race, when the horses were leaving the first turn. Cañonero II was so far behind that he was out of the frame as the television cameras stayed on the leaders down the backstretch.

Cañonero II didn't get another call until the jockeys were setting their horses up for a stretch run. By then, Avila had Cañonero II moving fastest of all, eight horses wide around the final turn and gaining on the leaders with every stride. He angled Cañonero II toward the rail with a furlong to go, and the colt drew away to win by 3¾ lengths over Jim French. The winning time over a fast track was 2:03⅕, well off Northern Dancer's track record.

Don Pedro didn't attend the Derby because of financial difficulties, and Cañonero II raced in the name of his son-in-law, Edgar Caibett. The owner didn't learn of Cañonero II's victory until a local reporter telephoned that evening with the news. Derby Day in 1971 fell on May 1, by coincidence the same as this year, a national holiday in Venezuela with no television or radio.

Don Pedro thought it was a joke, a cruel one at that, and slammed down the telephone. Other callers finally convinced him that the dream had come true.

• • •

Winning the Kentucky Derby has its perks. Don Pedro joined Pedro Jr., Arias and Avila in Baltimore, where Cañonero II and his human connections received treatment fit for a classic winner.

Reporters and photographers who ignored Cañonero II in Louisville made daily pilgrimages to the Preakness Barn at Pimlico Race Course to track the colt's pre-race preps, such as they were, and party invitations arrived on time.

The horse's story became well told by Preakness time. Bred in Kentucky by Edward Benjamin, the colt sold as a yearling at Keeneland for $1,200 to a Venezuelan buyer who later sold Cañonero II to Baptista as part of a package with two other horses. The bay colt won his debut at La Rinconada in his home country, made two starts at Del Mar in California, returned to Venezuela and won five of his next nine starts through April of 1971. Then came the Derby upset, and stardom.

"Cañonero II was treated with the respect and admiration that a Kentucky Derby winner deserves," Pedro Jr. told Gill about their experience at Pimlico. "Our attitude also changed from being a team of adventurers to a team that is victorious."

At the Alibi Breakfast, an important fixture of Preakness Week, Churchill Downs Publicity Director Raymond Johnson presented the $5,000 gold Derby trophy to Don Pedro. Johnson had a smaller replica of the trophy for Avila and an engraved gold pocket watch for Arias. The trainer also received a Medallion of Merit authorized by the Congress of Venezuela and presented in Washington, D.C., by the Venezuelan ambassador. Avila got a similar award during a ceremony in Caracas, where he went for a few days' rest before the Preakness.

Cañonero II's impressive come-from-behind Derby win silenced many of his critics, but not all of them.

There still were legitimate questions to be answered in the Preakness: could Arias work his magic a second time with his unorthodox training style? How would Cañonero II handle a smaller field and a shorter race over a track that seemed to favor speed? And most importantly, did Arias and his horse even belong in elite company as the trainer believed, or was Cañonero II a one-win wonder?

A hit-and-miss training schedule for Cañonero II during the week leading up to the Preakness puzzled the other trainers with horses in the race, but Arias was not concerned. He knew his horse, and Don Pedro supervised and approved the schedule. The original plan was to work Cañonero II on the Saturday before the Preakness, but Arias postponed the workout because of a sloppy track. Cañonero II then went off his feed and lost more training time when two teeth had to be extracted. A slight fever caused another delay, and the colt's first serious workout since the Derby finally took place on Wednesday, just three days before the Preakness.

Avila worked Cañonero II 5 furlongs that morning in a pedestrian 1:06. Six other Preakness horses worked an identical distance the same day, or the day before or after, and all of them had significantly faster times. Arias called the workout a "speed test;" *Daily Racing Form* writer Barney Nagler called it "laughable."

Arias might have been laughing, too, at least in private and for a different reason. Don Pedro always took an active role in

Cañonero II's training, and for the Preakness, he and Arias had decided on a dramatically different race strategy.

"It was a secret," Pedro Jr. recalled years later. "We didn't share the secret with anyone."

Cañonero II went out for a relaxed gallop over a muddy track Friday, the day before the Preakness. It was the sort of unconventional training move that people were coming to expect from Arias, who remained optimistic.

Later in the day, he had Cañonero II's groom, Juan Quintero, walk the colt to the grass course where the Preakness horses would be saddled the next afternoon. On the way back to the barn, Quintero stopped Cañonero II in the winner's circle, and the fans cheered. Arias said that he wanted the colt to get accustomed to the "noise of the crowd and the sight of the cameras after the victory."

The new strategy remained a secret for less than a minute after the start of the Preakness.

Calumet Farm's Florida Derby winner Eastern Fleet was a horse that liked the lead, and jockey Eddie Maple hustled the colt to the front at the break. The early fractions were quick–a quarter-mile in :23⅖; a half-mile in :47–and when the horses passed the stands for the first time, Eastern Fleet was where everyone expected him to be.

The surprise was developing behind the leader. Avila was rushing Cañonero II up the outside to challenge Eastern Fleet. It was an unexpected move for a long-striding colt with a stayer's pedigree, a colt who had won the Derby from far off the pace. The rest of the field dropped back, and after a mile, Cañonero II was in front. The time for the mile, 1:35, was 2⅖ seconds faster than the track record for the distance set in 1923 by a horse named June Grass.

Cañonero II pulled away from Eastern Fleet in the final strides and won by 1½ lengths, with Jim French a distant third. The winner's time, 1:54, lowered Nashua's track and stakes record by three-fifths of a second. Cañonero II's Preakness record stood for 13 years, until Gate Dancer won the race in 1:53⅖. At least that's what everyone thought at the time.

Forty years later, following a challenge to the official time for Secretariat's Preakness, the Maryland Racing Commission determined that Cañonero II's stakes record actually had been broken just two years later, in 1973. Secretariat's posted time, 1:55, had been wrong because of a malfunction in the

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*Trainer Juan Arias leads Cañonero and Gustavo Avila–who won the Preakness by 1½ lengths–to Pimlico's infield winner's circle after the 1971 Preakness.*

*Cañonero and his groom Juan Quintero share a moment.*

NANCY RINGOLD PHOTO

electronic timer. After testimony from seven witnesses and a review of a side-by-side comparison of recordings from the 1973 Preakness and two other runnings of the race, the commission ruled that Secretariat's winning time was 1:53, a stakes record that still stands.

The winning time didn't matter in 1971. There was dancing in the streets after the Preakness in Venezuela, where Cañonero II was approaching national hero status. For the Baptistas, Arias and Avila, the Preakness was further vindication of a shared belief in their horse that never wavered.

"Venezuela was in a state of continual celebration," Pedro Jr. recalled. "The entire United States was involved, and the media was covering Cañonero, the horse, and the story about the adventure."

• • •

Cañonero II won the Kentucky Derby with a late charge from 18 lengths off the pace, and then two weeks later took the Preakness with an unexpected burst of speed and a front-running win in stakes-record time. With the first Triple Crown sweep since Citation in 1948 now a real possibility, the main question leading up to the Belmont Stakes was which version of the colt would show up, the stayer or the speed horse.

In the end, it didn't matter. The physical problems and training interruptions that Cañonero II weathered before the Derby and Preakness got the better of him in the days leading up to the Belmont.

Avila sent Cañonero II to the front just as he had done in the Preakness, and for 6 furlongs, it looked as if he might steal the race. Cañonero II held off early challenges from Twist the Axe and Bold Reason, but longshot Pass Catcher caught him on the final turn. The odds-on favorite of the record crowd, Cañonero II faded to finish fourth, behind Pass Catcher, Jim French, and Bold Reason.

Recalling the Triple Crown races a half-century later, Avila said that the Belmont Stakes was a sad end to a remarkable few weeks. Despite the disappointment, however, Avila said that he considered the Belmont to be Cañonero II's best race. He was a game and honest horse, Avila explained, and "even with his problems, he came close to winning."

King Ranch owner Robert J. Kleberg Jr. bought Cañonero II for $1.5 million after the Belmont Stakes. Due to a seriously swollen hock that compromised his training for months, it took trainer William J. "Buddy" Hirsch almost a year to get Cañonero II back to the races, for a second in the 1972 Carter Handicap.

Reunited with Avila for three races in the fall, Cañonero II's only win in the King Ranch colors came in the Stymie Handicap, when he upset Derby and Belmont winner Riva Ridge. Cañonero II's time for the 1⅛-mile Stymie, 1:46⅕, was a new track record at Belmont Park and equaled the American record for the distance. It was the first time that two Kentucky Derby winners competed together since Swaps defeated Determine in the 1955 Californian Stakes.

After a lackluster career at stud in the U.S., Cañonero II was sold and sent back to Venezuela, where he died in 1981.

Reporting on Cañonero II's death for *Daily Racing Form*, the late Joe Hirsch wrote: "The wire service from Caracas said that he died of a heart attack. That couldn't have been correct. There was never anything wrong with Cañonero's heart." ✹

## Footnotes

Team Cañonero broke up after the Belmont. Pedro Baptista Sr. resolved the financial problems that kept him from attending the Kentucky Derby and he maintained a racing stable in Venezuela until his death in 1984. Pedro Jr. is a successful businessman in Florida. He is not involved in racing. Juan Arias had several offers to train in the United States after the Belmont, but he was cursed by expectations that he could work another miracle. He returned to Venezuela to train and work as a racing official. Gustavo Avila retired from a successful career as a rider in the mid-1980s and lives in Florida with family. He regularly watches replays of Cañonero II's Triple Crown bid.

*Milt Toby is an attorney and award-winning author based in Central Kentucky. His nine books include* Canoñero II: The Rags to Riches Story of the Kentucky Derby's Most Improbable Winner, *from The History Press. He wrote about Canoñero II because of a strong backstory that sounds more like fiction than fact.*

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| **The Christiana Stakes - Grade BT** For Fillies 3 Year Olds | 1 mile & 1/16 (Turf) | July 3 | $75,000 | June 19 | $50 |
| **The Kent Stakes - Grade III** For 3 Year Olds | 1 mile & 1/8 (Turf) | July 3 | $150,000 | June 19 | $200 |
| **THE DELAWARE OAKS - Grade III** For Fillies 3 Year Olds | 1 mile & 1/16 | July 3 | $300,000 | June 19 | $200 |
| **The Peach Blossom Stakes*** Fillies and Mares–3 Year Olds & Upward Ⓒ | 7 1/2 furlongs (Turf) | July 7 | $50,000 | June 24 | FREE |
| **The Sussex Stakes*** For 3 Year Olds & Upward Ⓒ | 7 1/2 furlongs (Turf) | July 8 | $50,000 | June 24 | FREE |
| **The Battery Park Stakes** For 3 Year Olds & Upward | 1 mile & 1/16 | July 10 | $50,000 | June 26 | FREE |
| **The Dashing Beauty Stakes - Grade BT** For Fillies and Mares–3 Year Olds & Upward | 6 furlongs | July 10 | $100,000 | June 26 | $50 |
| **The Robert G. Dick Memorial - Grade III** Fillies and Mares–3 Year Olds & Upward | 1 mile & 3/8 (Turf) | July 10 | $150,000 | June 26 | $200 |
| **THE DELAWARE HANDICAP - Grade II** Fillies and Mares–3 Year Olds & Upward | 1 mile & 1/4 | July 10 | $400,000 | June 26 | $250 |
| **The Cape Henlopen Stakes** 3 Year Olds & Upward | 1 mile & 1/2 (Turf) | Aug 11 | $75,000 | July 29 | $50 |
| **The Blue Hen Dash*** For Fillies-2 Year Olds Ⓒ | 5 1/2 furlongs | Aug 25 | $50,000 | Aug 14 | FREE |
| **The Dover Stakes*** 2 Year Olds Ⓒ | 5 1/2 furlongs | Aug 26 | $50,000 | Aug 14 | FREE |

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# Back IN THE Ring

## Timonium 2-year-old sale returns to May as consignors regroup

By Joe Clancy

An owner sent Quarter Horse trainer Al Pike to Keeneland to buy a filly. Pike figured it would be fun to look at Thoroughbreds for a change and made the trek. While there, he bumped into Hoby Kight, a friend from the Quarter Horse game.

"Hoby, what are you doing here?"

Kight, who'd branched out into the business of buying Thoroughbred yearlings and selling them as 2-year-olds, delivered a simple answer.

"I'm a pinhooker."

"A what?" Pike asked.

That was years ago. Pike now knows what a pinhooker is, and plenty of people know who he is too. The Louisiana-based horseman has sold the sales-topper at Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's annual 2-year-old sale twice in the last five years. He's "loaded," as he put it, with a consignment of 11 this year. The same could be said for the whole sale, which returns to its traditional Preakness Week slot (horses breeze May 11-13 and sell May 17-18) after getting pushed back to late June due to the coronavirus pandemic last year. An early version of the catalog went to Hip 570 and—as usual—covered all bases in terms of sought-after stallions, top-shelf consignors and horses from all of the various state breeding programs in the region and beyond. Timonium's sales-topper has reached seven figures for six consecutive years and the recent graduate list includes 2020 female sprint champion Gamine (a $1.8 million purchase by agent Donato Lanni and trainer Bob Baffert for Marylander Michael Lund Petersen in 2019) in addition to Grade 1 winners Got Stormy, Concrete Rose, Mucho Gusto, Bodexpress and Abscond.

Like its customers, Fasig-Tipton weathered the Covid storm in 2020—canceling the Miami 2-year-old sale entirely, delaying the Timonium sale more than a month, moving the Saratoga yearling sale to Kentucky, creating an online bidding portal and tackling any other task necessary. The sales company, and its customers, adapted and all welcome a return to something close to normal in 2021.

The uncertainty bred flexibility, which should surprise no one.

"This is as resilient a group of people as you'll ever find, the whole industry is," said Kip Elser, whose South Carolina-based Kirkwood Stable aims five to the May sale. "Some are going to make it back a little quicker than others, but everybody's getting back and absolutely it feels great."

Elser's South Carolina-based peer Cary Frommer was targeting 26 at Timonium, and agreed.

"I'm just back into the groove and forgetting that last year I wasn't sure if I was even in business a few times," she said. "Like everybody in the world, you had to be resilient, accept the changes and go to Plan B or even Plan C. Fasig was incredible about helping us wade through this with

LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

TIBOR SLAVIK

*Timonium regulars Al Pike (above), Susan Montanye and Kip Elser gear up for the sale's return to May.*

BARRY BORNSTEIN

them. They kept us well aware of their decisions and thoughts and we were able to try to position ourselves accordingly."

Florida's Niall Brennan skipped the rescheduled Timonium sale last year (blame Covid), but is looking forward to returning with a consignment of 12 on the early list.

"On the day of hip numbering last year, we had eight horses and I just backed out of it at the last minute," Brennan said. "I wasn't sure, I didn't want to commit. It had nothing to do with the sale. It was just the unknown of it, that's the reason we didn't go. We love coming there."

Susan Montanye, whose Florida-based SBM Training and Sales put 23 in the catalog, battled the 2020 calendar like everyone else and was happy to be aiming at the May sale this year.

"It's all timing with these horses," she said. "You train them up to whatever sale it is you're targeting so when you get delayed it's a matter of how you manage where you are and where you're going to be, and who knew when that was going to happen [last year]? The racing end got tied up, the economy… nobody knew if we were coming or going. We got through it OK. A lot of my owners opted to keep some horses versus selling simply because they were getting backed up into later months. We moved some horses, owners kept some horses, we kept going but it was challenging."

Pike, the guy who came by pinhooking somewhat by accident, found a positive to the pandemdic—at least in terms of 2021.

"A side effect of all of that is there's a clamor of horses right now," he said in April, while driving home from the Texas Thoroughbred Association's 2-year-old sale. "They were fighting over horses. If it was a nice horse, it was bringing really good money. And that's in Texas. I was at OBS March, they had a fine sale. I think the market is bouncing back. I was really afraid everybody would be playing it really close to the vest coming out of this Covid, but that doesn't seem to be the case."

## Why Timonium?

It's almost tradition to ask about the success of the May sale, to search for a reason, to wonder how this old, 5-furlong racetrack hemmed in by a light-rail line, a McDonald's, car dealerships and the state fairgrounds managed to carve a niche in the 2-year-old auction scene. Graduates blast off in all directions, every year. Who's Who trainers attend, every year. Major agents show big-time clients around, every year.

How many reasons do you want?

Start with timing. May works for 2-year-olds. They're far enough along in their training, beyond at least some of the growth spurts, over the coughs and colds, ready to become racehorses. A later-maturing horse (or one that stubbed its toe somewhere along the way) might not showcase itself in March, but can shine in May.

"There are certain horses, when you buy them, you just stamp on their butt that

FASIG-TIPTON PHOTO

they're going to Maryland," said Pike. "I'm not really sure why, you can just tell. I've got a May 6 baby by Into Mischief in my group this year. He could have gone to any sale, but it made sense to aim for Maryland because of that foaling date. I don't actually buy them with Timonium in mind, but as we start breaking them and figuring out what we want to do with them that's when we start figuring out where they're going."

Brennan made the same point, though he said the Florida-based consignors also weigh the luxury of selling in their home state—especially while the world tries to navigate the pandemic.

"It's eight weeks out when you're making these plans, so it's hard to say because the horses will change again," he said. "We target May foals, late April foals who look like May foals for Maryland. They might be fine in Florida, we're just guessing, but you think Maryland will give you more time."

Mix in location. Timonium of course attracts national horsemen in the area for the Preakness Week cards, but also brings in regional trainers for whom a trek to Florida in March or April might not fit on the schedule. That matters.

"The reality is you see several buyers at that sale you may not see down here—local trainers, guys from Delaware, Parx, Maryland, New Jersey, they buy a couple 2-year-olds every year and they'll go there because they know they can buy them," said Brennan. "They're not going to come to Florida if they're only buying a horse or two."

Blend in variety. The million-dollar horses get all the attention, but depth wins out at Timonium as the catalog gets filled out by horses eligible for various state-bred incentives. The 2021 catalog includes horses bred in Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Delaware- and Virginia-certified notations dot the lineup as well.

"A Maryland-bred, or a Pennsylvania-bred I'll keep for that sale just because they'll get more viewing there," said Brennan.

There are 2-year-olds by Into Mischief at Timonium, of course, but you'll also get a look at the first crop from Maryland sires Divining Rod, Holy Boss and Madefromlucky among others.

"If there's a good horse there everybody in the horse world knows about it," Pike said. "The track plays pretty fair, they do a great job getting people there, it all works."

Rub some dirt on it. Despite its "bull-ring" reputation, Timonium's tight track offers plenty of positives. Many believe the dirt surface offers a truer look at a horse's stride and potential, compared to the synthetic track at the Ocala Breeders Sale facility in Florida (though that track has plenty of fans too, especially if it rains). The Timonium track is always fresh, since there's no racing or training except during the sale and around the short, late-summer meet. The banked turns seem to help horses, too. The tighter layout means horses can only go so fast. Horses typically clock in at 10 seconds or more for the standard 1-furlong breezes, which is just fine by most people.

"Buyers are a little more forgiving there, to times," said Montanye. "Horse can go in 10 and 2 or even 10 and 3, gallop out good and do it the right way. Buyers tend to enjoy that, in my opinion, over a horse that's just scrambling to go 9 and 4."

Elser remembers 2-year-olds galloping two abreast at sales, but has seen his share of quality breezes too thanks to Kirkwood graduates Smoke Glacken, Mucho Gusto and Alphabet Soup. Timonium's racetrack offers a canvas to horses.

"It has always been a very safe racetrack to train and work on, so we love that," Elser said. "It's beautifully banked and Chief, whose real name I don't know, loves his racetrack and he does an unbelievable job. They take the top off it every year, there's not much traffic on it, ever. Those guys do an unbelievable job and it's appreciated."

"Chief" is Don Denmyer, who works for Timonium. Say thank you when you see him.

## A New Name, Sort Of

Penn National-based trainer Todd Beattie, who won a Grade 1 stakes with

*Top: Niall Brennan returns to Timonium, and will keep a close eye on his charges as usual. Bottom: Todd Beattie heads to the track at Penn National with his Bourbon Courage—Sara Rocks filly, Hip 154 in the May catalog.*

LYDIA A. WILLIAMS (2)

Fabulous Strike and has more than 1,700 victories, tries something new with his first consignment at a sale with six horses headed to Timonium. Don't expect any rookie mistakes.

Beattie prepped Maxine's Tap Room for the 2020 sale at Timonium, and the Bourbon Courage filly sold for $135,000 (as part of the Nomad Farm consignment) before winning her debut for trainer Ron Moquett at Keeneland last fall and placing in a stakes. Beattie saddled his first runners in 1982 and knows how to get 2-year-olds ready. His sister Holley and her husband Bryan Rice operate Woodside Ranch training center in Florida, which preps 2-year-olds among other services.

"I've sold quite a few horses, just behind the scenes," Beattie said in April. "I kind of like that, prepping horses, working with young horses and getting them going. I've been around it, my whole family's done it, it's a new thing but it's not that new. This is going to be another aspect to add to our business."

Beattie's client Dr. Ron Parker bred Maxine's Tap Room and had four potential Timonium entrants for this year, so Beattie dove in and added two others. The group started early, sat out some of the worst winter weather and got back to work from Beattie's private barn at Penn National as spring got closer to reality.

"I got started so early and got them broke and riding and about ready to go to the track before the freeze started to set in," said Beattie. "They had those miles on them, so we could just bide our time a little bit and wait for the weather to pass. We didn't feel pressure, we got them broke and riding, that was important. Then we could go on with them at the track. We haven't had any problems."

Parker's four juveniles in the Beattie consignment are Maryland-breds by Maryland stallions Bourbon Courage and Holy Boss (a colt and a filly each) including a half-brother to Maxine's Tap Room by Holy Boss. Fillies by Gormley and Point of Entry complete the roster.

"At this point, he's looking really good," Beattie said of the Holy Boss colt. "He's been pretty fast already and is pretty far along, he's a really good-looking colt. I expect him to sell really well."

As a trainer, Beattie has been on the buying side of 2-year-old sales and also

FASIG-TIPTON PHOTO

knows what he expects from a horse coming to his barn.

"Being a trainer and buying horses and getting 2-year-olds in the barn will help," he said. "I know what people want with horses they get from a sale. I'll have them far along at the gate. They'll be ready to go forward. People will like getting them from me. I want people to feel comfortable buying them from me."

## Catalog Surfing

It would be easier to pick the Preakness winner in January than it would to handicap the results of a 2-year-old sale more than a month ahead of time, but there are plenty of horses to watch at Timonium this year even if every buyer on the grounds will tell you they're looking for athletes first and pedigrees second.

Hip 429 is a half-brother to champion and multiple Grade 1 winner Midnight Bisou. The Pioneerof the Nile colt is part of Brennan's consignment and sold for $150,000 at Keeneland September last year. Hip 416, by Gun Runner, is a half-brother to Grade 1 winner Finley'sluckycharm. Hip 338 (Pike's Into Mischief colt) is a half-brother to Arlington Million-G1 winner Beach Patrol. Hip 173 is from one of the deepest female pedigrees in all of racing as the Violence filly's dam Sherini is a half-sister to graded winners Shackleford, Lady Joanne, Baghdaria and Afleeting Lady and from the family of Firenze Fire, Uncle Lino, Stephanoatsee and others. Super stallion Tapit's half-sister Rubies Are Red is the dam of Hip 140, a colt by Quality Road. Graded winner and graded producer Ready's Gal is the dam of Hip 133, a colt by Distorted Humor. Rather Special (Ire), a daughter of Belmont Stakes-G1 heroine Rags to Riches by Galileo (Ire), is the dam of Hip 130, an Uncle Mo filly. Hip 127, a Mastery filly, brings a connection to the Phipps family's deep breeding program with My Flag, Storm Flag Flying, Miner's Mark and Personal Ensign on the catalog page. Hip 50, an Outwork filly, is a half-sister to Grade 1 winner Warren's Veneda. Hip 41, a Medaglia d'Oro filly, is a half-sister to Grade 1 winner and champion sprinter Points Offthebench. Hip 491 is a half-sister to millionaire Jesus' Team, whose record includes placings in three Grade 1 stakes.

And so it goes.

Elser would like you to arrive early as he sells Hip 1, a Mineshaft filly out of Madam Lagonza and therefore a full-sister to Miner's Secret, the dam of Grade 2 winner and sire Coal Front, and half-sister to Grade 3 winner Woodlander. Hip 1 is the last foal out of Madam Lagonza, a $22,000 yearling purchase by Maryland trainer Leon Blusiewicz in 1997. The mare never raced, but went on to produce Woodlander, stakes winner Admiral Alex, winner Miss Ocean City (also by Mineshaft and whose foals include Grade 2 winner Azar). In addition, Miss Ocean City produced the 2020 Timonium sales-topper (at $1.1 million) sold by Pike.

"She's a nice filly," Elser said. "It's nice to bring a well-bred filly like that to Timonium. I've got a short group, but they're nice horses and I'm really happy with them."

Other than speedy workouts, nothing spurs attention at Timonium more than high-level sires and the nine Into Mischief juveniles will get plenty of looks. Frommer added one to her pinhooking squad (Hip 266) with a $175,000 yearling purchase at Fasig-Tipton's Kentucky select yearling sale in September.

"He was out of my price range, and I stretched but I also knew the people that had raised him and I love buying horses from them," said Frommer of Nancy and Tim Hamlin's Wynnstay Farm. "He was a later foal and little on the small side, but I thought that if I could get him to grow and nature did what it was supposed to do then he could be a lot more expensive as a 2-year-old. He's grown nicely and he's fast."

Pike's team reads like a stallion guide with horses by Into Mischief (three), Empire Maker, Gun Runner and Curlin leading the way.

"It's a pretty good year to have some Into Mischiefs," Pike said. "I've got a Curlin and it's a good year to have a Curlin. It's always a good year to have a Medaglia d'Oro and I've got one of those too. I don't set out to find them [when shopping for yearlings], I'm basically looking for horses."

The big SBM Training and Sales consignment spans all sire groups–from American Freedom to Will Take Charge. A Maryland-bred Divining Rod colt out of stakes producer Happy Refrain, purchased for $52,000 at Timonium as a yearling, fits in there somewhere–part of his sire's first crop.

"I have a phenomenal group," Montanye said. "They have not been through another sale, they're not retreads. It's their time to shine. They were all targeted to that sale and that surface."

She won't pick favorites, but couldn't help talking about a Cairo Prince colt who goes by "King Kong" around the barn. Hip 435 is out of the Ready's Image mare Dream of Bertie and comes by the nickname honestly.

"He's just a big, two-turn horse that I've loved since the day he was bought [for $230,000 at Keeneland September]," Montanye said. "He gives me goosebumps when he goes to the track."

Hip 458, an American Freedom colt out of the City Zip mare Fabiana's Flash, represents some new clients for Montanye–her exercise riders A.J., Gil and Oreo Martinez.

"They're brothers and they had part of a horse with me last year that sold in Maryland," Montanye said. "They wanted to do it again, he didn't cost very much money [$16,000] and he's really come along. He can flat haul ass."

Frommer likes the progression of a homebred filly by Maryland sire Editorial out of her Congrats mare She's Scary. The mating wasn't exactly the product of intense research, but has thus far worked out.

"She wasn't getting in foal and was at the Bowmans' farm in Maryland, where Editorial was at the time, so I bred to him," Frommer said. "I have the biggest, strappingest, toughest filly that's one of the nicest horses I've ever bred. I don't breed a lot, but I've had some luck and this filly is really nice."

Like Pike, Hartley/de Renzo has topped Timonium twice in the last five years–with a $1.5 million colt in 2017 and a $1.2 million colt in 2018. The Florida-based consignor returns with a roster of seven for 2021 including colts by Classic Empire, Violence, Exaggerator and Connect and fillies by American Pharoah, Practical Joke and California Chrome. Hip 533, a Violence colt, is a half-brother to Black-Eyed Susan-G2 winner Payton d'Oro.

Brennan's consignment covers the pedigree bases as well with 2-year-olds by Pioneerof the Nile (the half-brother to Midnight Bisou), Practical Joke, American Pharoah and Empire Maker on the roster. Freshman sire Mastery has six in the catalog, including Hip 89 from the Brennan consignment. The filly is out of stakes-placed winner Our Jenny B.

"She's a big, good-looking filly," Brennan said. "These Masterys are kind of interesting. They certainly want to stretch out, or at least the ones I've had do. She's only going to get better."

Regional racing watchers will recognize the pedigree behind another Mastery filly, Hip 551 from the consignment of Sequel Bloodstock. Her dam Lady Sabelia was a regular on the Maryland circuit for trainer Robin Graham and owners Frank and Ginny Wright, with wins in the Barbara Fritchie-G2, Safely Kept, Willa On the Move, What A Summer and other stakes while winning 11 of 20 starts and earning $740,465. Carrying the Mastery filly, Lady Sabelia sold to Breeze Easy for $225,000 in 2018.


Scanlon Training and Sales

**Fasig-Tipton Midlantic 2-Year-Olds Selling May 17–18**

**32** **FLATTER filly**
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**33** **JIMMY CREED filly**
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**45** **CLASSIC EMPIRE colt**
o/o MOONING FOR YOU

**69** **MIDNIGHT STORM filly**
o/o NEVER EVER

**75** **UNION JACKSON colt**
o/o NICOLE'S MISS EL

**102** **CONSTITUTION colt**
o/o PERSONAL SUNSET

**116** **GUN RUNNER filly**
o/o PREMURA

**130** **UNCLE MO filly**
o/o RATHER SPECIAL (IRE)

**156** **LIAM'S MAP colt**
o/o SASS AND CLASS

**213** **CONSTITUTION filly**
o/o SUGAR BABE

**215** **ORB filly**
o/o SUMMER RULES

**290** **JIMMY CREED filly**
o/o ABIDE IN ME

**292** **PRACTICAL JOKE colt**
o/o ABUNDANCEOFCAUTION

**324** **MIDNIGHT STORM filly**
o/o AVA G

**350** **CENTRAL BANKER filly**
o/o BEST REWARD

**374** **CURLIN colt**
o/o CATCH THE THRILL

**430** **MIDNIGHT STORM colt**
o/o DIXIE DAWN

**470** **LORD NELSON colt**
o/o FORESTRY'S MAGIC

**503** **NEW YEAR'S DAY colt**
o/o HARDRAINSGONNAFALL

**508** **MACLEAN'S MUSIC filly**
o/o HI BEAUTIFUL

**526** **CANDY RIDE (ARG) filly**
o/o INTEREST FREE

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# Riders Up

## Sales breezes matter for horses, people

By Joe Clancy

You ever ride a horse so fast it took your breath away? No, not your pony running away with you in the ring or the foxhunter ripping across the field with you or even that time your father's racehorse made a few laps too many of whatever racetrack you were trying to get around.

No, this question is about a young Thoroughbred picking up its hooves and striding out—ears flat, nostrils flared, mane in your face, running, really running for all it's worth. You ever do that?

The men and women aboard the 2-year-olds at Timonium for Fasig-Tipton Midlantic's annual sale have. They're exercise riders, "breeze" riders if you want to be super specific, and they matter for it's their skill that lets horses shine in front of bidders who then spend millions of dollars to add those horses to the finest racing stables in the nation.

What does that feel like?

"I'm still a jockey, I ride at Penn National, but working a baby is different than riding a race or working a horse that's already racing," said Willie Otero, who has ridden nearly 18,000 races and is a regular aboard sales 2-year-olds for consignors Kip Elser and Clovis Crane. "It's more exciting. They go faster. I like the adrenaline. You want them to be sharp, you want them to be fast. You just let them run free because they want to run."

Otero has been working the sales for five years, and was aboard Elser's Violence colt at the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's March sale for a furlong workout in 9.4 seconds. The move tied for the fastest at the sale, and helped fuel a $550,000 winning bid by Spendthrift Farm. Otero did

*Diego Rodriguez works last year's Timonium sales-topper in a quick :10 flat.*

FASIG-TIPTON PHOTO

his part even if it looks like he didn't do much in the short video clip.

"You feel it when you're going that fast and know when you're going to have a good time," he said. "You don't even have to look at the clock. When you feel the horse is rolling and trying very hard, don't push them anymore because you'll lose the rhythm."

Dressed in more black than Johnny Cash, Otero kept the rhythm and Elser appreciated it. The South Carolina horseman used to ride jump races and remembers galloping 2-year-olds for consignor Clay Camp at Hialeah before a sale. Elser knows riders, and appreciates the skill-set. Elser singled out former jockey Dale Lynch as a sage with sales horses and called him one of the best ever. Lynch is still active, and puts his experience to good use.

"It's a very different skill," Elser said. "Getting them balanced right, getting them to change their leads, there's a lot to it. One key is getting off the pole quick and smooth, and these guys are very good at that."

An aside on the wardrobe, it's become customary for sales riders to wear black–boots, pants, shirt, vest, helmet, goggles, gloves even. Otero, whose OBS uniform's only non-black element was a tan rubber band around his helmet cover, offered an explanation.

"Everybody wants to see the horse, not the jockey," he said. "You lay down real low, close to the body. We're supposed to be invisible."

But important.

Diego Rodriguez rides most of consignor Al Pike's horses at the sales and brings a wealth of knowledge. The Uncle Mo colt who topped the 2020 sale at Timonium? That was Rodriguez aboard. While working for consignor Jerry Bailey, Rodriguez rode such stars as Henny Hughes, Lookin At Lucky and Yes It's True in sale workouts. Rodriguez credited Bailey with starting the career path, and said that success depends on the work leading up to the sale.

"When good people know what they're doing, they make my job easy and we are a team," Rodriguez said. "A good one, it doesn't feel like you're going that fast. I breezed a filly for Al Pike in Texas (in April) and he told me I was going to love her. We finished and I thought the time was :11. It was :10 flat. When they do it right, it doesn't feel fast."

Like Rodriguez, Pike appreciates the team aspect of a sale. Good work at home leads to a good work at the sale.

"Diego is very talented," Pike said. "He gives you a good, honest try and lets your horse do what they can do. I've had race jockeys do it for me and it's not the same. This is a different skill set. These guys are good at what they do. They let a horse do as well as they can do without being too busy on them. You don't want that. You don't want somebody really race-riding them. You find somebody you can trust, you put them on the horse and you let them show the horse off."

PHOTO BY Z

*Dressed in the required all-black outfit, Willie Otero works hip 48 at the OBS March sale.*

Susan Montanye got so good at breezing horses for J.J. Crupi and others at sales that she started her own consignment. SBM Training and Sales will be one of the busier shedrows at Timonium, and she will still get aboard for workouts.

"Staying out of their way, keeping them guided and engaged," she said about the key ingredients. "It's a fine line, there's a little bit of a science, a trick to it. I have found that less is more. You're chirping to them and asking them to run, but getting in their way is a hinderance."

The work starts at home, and the best sales breezes come from horses who stay engaged.

"If the trainer has done their job which is to teach these horses to go forward, then it works," Montanye said. "I can't make one go faster than anyone else can, some people think I can, and horses will run faster for some people, but I can't take a horse that is slow and make it run fast–I wish I had that gift, but I don't."

Nobody does, really, and her skills were earned not gifted anyway. Montanye worked Triple Crown winner American Pharoah as a young horse at the farm, breezed $3-million earner Goldencents before he sold for $62,000 at OBS in 2012, and has gotten on countless other horses famous and not-so-famous. She knows what it takes, for the horses and the people.

"It's one of those things where practice makes perfect, but unless you get the opportunity to get on these horses and figure it out, it's tough to practice," Montanye said. "I watched videos, everybody's videos, and I took that into my riding style. We don't all ride exactly the same. Some ride with the bridle in their hand, some ride with a loose rein. I like the bit to be in their mouth, I don't like chucking them their heads. We're teaching them to run into the bit, if you chuck them their head they can get a little lost. That's my style of riding anyway."

## Questions and Answers

**Hey, Willie Otero, is there a trick to riding breezes at Timonium?**

"It's different. The fastest time you can do is early in the morning. The track's faster in the morning. It's a different kind of turn, because it's a smaller track but the horses are there the week before so they get used to it. I try to go to the outside of the turn early, because then you can do more of a straight line to the finish."

**Hey, Susan Montanye, what was American Pharoah like to breeze?**

"That wasn't at a 2-year-old sale, so it was totally different. They asked me to sit on him and I just kind of cruised him around there at the farm. They said he could get a little strong, but he was a different animal–very strong, he obviously loved to train, loved to breeze. I didn't realize I was going as fast as I was. He had that stride to him, so it was very deceiving. When you're at the sale and one's going fast you know they're going fast but when you're clipping along at the farm you don't necessarily know quite how fast you're going. I didn't do anything. They told me to sit and I was just sitting. He couldn't blow out a candle afterward."

**Hey, Diego Rodriguez, why are you good at breezing sale horses?**

"I never think I'm good. I still look at a lot of riders who do the same thing I do. But not anybody can do it. Everybody makes mistakes and you just have to try not to make too many."

# The Chief's Gambit

*Virginia-bred Chess Chief lands Grade 2 stakes for Coleman, Stewart, Morgan's Ford*

*By Sara Gordon*

HODGES PHOTOGRAPHY

Though born and raised at Morgan's Ford Farm in Virginia, Chess Chief never feels more at home than when he runs at Fair Grounds Race Course in New Orleans, La. The 5-year-old horse has made nine starts at the southern track in the past three years, securing four wins, a second and two thirds, with his most recent victory in the $400,000 New Orleans Classic-G2 March 20.

The Dallas Stewart trainee, coming off of a third in the Mineshaft Stakes-G3 in February, started as the 5-1 second choice in a field of seven headed by 4-5 favorite Owendale and Grade 1 winner Roadster. Under Luis Saez, Chess Chief bided time at the back before making his move down the long stretch as he hustled from the outside to beat Owendale by a head, with Enforceable a half-length back in third and Roadster a head behind in fourth.

"His performance was awesome. He was rolling on the turn, I thought Saez gave him a great ride, just gave him a big chance to win at the sixteenth pole, and he just measured Owendale up and nailed him on the money," said Stewart. "It was a fun race to watch, you know he beat a real nice horse, so we're hoping we progress forward and of course we won a Grade 2 with him, so hopefully we can win a Grade 1 with him."

The 10th time was the charm for the bay son of Into Mischief, who secured his first stakes victory after nine attempts, eight graded. He finished 1⅛ miles in 1:49.24.

But Chess Chief's victory was more than just a career milestone, as he paid homage to his late owner James Coleman Jr., a New Orleans native, who passed away unexpectedly March 21, 2019, at age 77. An attorney, real estate developer, community supporter and endorser of the arts, Coleman was previously a partner in Lane's End Racing as he held an interest in champion Honor Code, and later joined in on a deal that gave him breeding rights to Honor Code and Liam's Map.

Though Coleman ventured out on his own briefly in 2015 with 2-year-old filly Meg and Clair, who made four starts for him, it wasn't until the 2017 Fasig-Tipton Saratoga select yearling sale that Coleman really took things into his own hands. After Chess Chief left the ring as a $145,000 RNA, Stewart stepped in and purchased the colt privately.

"I really liked the horse and he was top on my list, but he had kind of a physical issue that he was just born with. He didn't reach his reserve, and I was kind of watching him, looking at other horses, and when it came down, I was really the only guy that liked the horse. My vet told me that he thought the horse would be fine, he'd make it through, you know it's just one of those things. If you like the horse and can get the horse at a good price, go ahead," said Stewart. "So we negotiated a deal and bought the horse. I talked to [Coleman] about the little issue and he said he'd be willing to take the chance."

Chess Chief made his first two starts as a 2-year-old at Churchill Downs in late 2018 before shipping to Fair Grounds to kick off his sophomore season. He broke his maiden in his fifth start, a 1 1/16-mile maiden special weight. The win was the first for Coleman as a solo owner, secured just a few weeks prior to his passing.

"He's a special horse, and it's just a shame Mr. Coleman passed away," said Stewart. "His son Jamie has taken over the reins here, and it was all quite new to him. He's been around racing somewhat, but I think he's pretty thrilled."

Officially racing for the Estate of James J. Coleman Jr., Chess Chief moved up to make his stakes debut, in graded company, in the 2019 Toyota Blue Grass-G2 at Keeneland, where he managed to finish fifth of 14. His competitive 3-year-old season continued with seven starts at six tracks, including a second in the West Virginia Derby-G3, 6 lengths behind Mr. Money; a third in the Oklahoma Derby-G3; a fourth in the Indiana Derby-G3; and a run in the Travers Stakes-G1, where he finished eighth behind favorites Code of Honor, Tacitus and Mucho Gusto.

Last year, the bay returned to Fair Grounds with a second in his first start as a 4-year-old, and continued with a 4¾-length allowance win in late February. The following month, Chess Chief started in the 1⅛-mile New Orleans Classic-G2 and finished third, before being disqualified and placed sixth for interference in the stretch. Eighth in the Oaklawn Handicap-G2 in May, he made four starts at the allowance level to end the year the way he'd started it, with a runner-up result in November at Churchill, followed by a neck win in December at Fair Grounds.

"He trained really well at Fair Grounds, he had a nice race here at Churchill before we got down there in November, and he just progressed nicely," said Stewart. "This year's [New Orleans Classic] that he won was kind of our focus, where we wanted to be at the end of the meet, and it worked out great."

Call it talent with a dash of divine intervention, as all four of Chess Chief's wins have come at Fair Grounds, with his record 4-4-3 from 23 starts with $632,048 in earnings.

But as far as the rest of his 5-year-old season goes, those plans are still in the works.

"You have the Stephen Foster here at Churchill [June 26], that would probably be something we might look at, but how we figure out how to get there, I don't know," said Stewart. "I'm not saying [the New Orleans Classic] was a hard race on him, but we know he ran really fast, so we want to make a campaign of it for sure."

Chess Chief not only left a lasting impact on the Coleman family in New Orleans, but also on his breeders, Wayne and Susie Chatfield-Taylor of Morgan's Ford Farm in Front Royal, Va., and their broodmare Un Blessed.

Over 43 years of owning and operating Morgan's Ford, the Chatfield-Taylors have spent nearly three-quarters of that time looking for a way to tap into the prestigious Darby Dan Farm bloodline developed by the Galbreath family. All attempts had been futile until the 2014 Keeneland November sale, when they purchased Un Blessed, in foal to Sidney's Candy, for $110,000.

A $70,000 yearling bred by MDS Farms in New York, the daughter of Mineshaft failed to hit the board in five starts racing in Japan. But what she lacked in race record, she more than made up for in pedigree.

"The funny thing is that we were in the barn at Darby Dan one night in January years ago when her dam, Plenty of Grace, was delivering a foal and it was impactful, historic and we're pleased to have put [Un Blessed] in our group," said Wayne. "We didn't buy her to resell her, we bought

KATHERINE TURNBULL

*From a long line of successful Darby Dan Farm mares, Morgan's Ford Farm's Un Blessed lost all five of her starts on the racetrack (in Japan), but is now the dam of a Grade 2 winner.*

her to kind of pick up the flag and carry it along in Virginia, so that's what we've been doing. She's a big, rugged mare like the family is and she's just kind of what we wanted to have here on the farm."

Un Blessed hails from a rich and talented female family, including her dam Grade 1 winner Plenty of Grace (a daughter of Roberto), her Grade 3-winning granddam Wings of Grace (Key to the Mint), and tracing back to the first Galbreath-bred of the line, Soaring (Swaps). Quality relatives include champion Soaring Softly, Grade 1-placed Recepta, Grade 2 winner Manitoulin, Grade 2 winner Diabolical and many others.

Chess Chief is his dam's second foal and winner, from three starters, and continues to set the bar high for his younger half-siblings, including 3-year-old colt Prime Time Player (Ghostzapper), who sold for $150,000 as a weanling and $430,000 as a yearling at the 2019 Keeneland September sale; 2-year-old filly Smuggle, by Gun Runner; and a yearling full-brother to Prime Time Player, who sold for $135,000 at last year's Keeneland November sale.

"I think the family needs a little time to sort of get there, I think that's the thing about Chess Chief. I really think that he looks like he's maybe coming to form, like this is an important year, and I hope it is for him. He's been knocking on the door for three years of doing this and now he's over $600,000, and that was a good race he won the other day," said Wayne. "I think that the family wants a little time, which is what we've learned from it. The ones that are not there yet, could still get there, so I think it could be a sign of great things to come and we certainly hope so. That would be very much in keeping with the family."

Prime Time Player, bred by Morgan's Ford in partnership with Adena Springs, made his first two starts for owners Gary and Mary West this February and March at Fair Grounds, sent out by trainer Wayne Catalano. Smuggle, however, will be campaigned by Morgan's Ford.

"We couldn't get her ready for a sale, [though] people wanted to look at her one way or another, but we just couldn't get her ready," said Wayne. "She had some minor issues, some things that were going on about her, so at this point we're going to race her. It's a bit of luck to still have her."

Un Blessed's first foal, named Sweet Inspiration "because she was a tough one," broke her maiden in October 2018 at Mountaineer, but hasn't started since January 2019. The Chatfield-Taylors sold her for $32,000 as a yearling in the 2016 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall sale.

"We've been trying to get her back, but she's sort of disappeared again, we can't figure out where she went, but we would like to have her back," said Wayne. "That's something we also do, we'll sell them, try to make some money on that, and then we'll try to buy the family back. We kind of rescue them back sometimes too and that's a nice experience to bring a mare home after say 10 years, after we sold her as a yearling and we've been following her wherever she is and then to get her home and walk her off the truck and [have her] back in her birthplace. It feels good to do that."

After holding out for two weeks past her due date, Un Blessed foaled a filly by Candy Ride (Arg) March 25, the same day as *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred*'s interview with the Chatfield-Taylors. She was bred by Morgan's Ford in partnership with Lane's End Farm. Un Blessed has been booked back to Kitten's Joy.

For now, Chess Chief is the family's main newsmaker.

"We've been following every race and that's pretty much how we are with it all. Where they go is something of great importance to us and we're following [along]," said Wayne. "We don't have a huge broodmare band, but we're following all of our horses that way, on a daily basis, and we're rooting for everybody. We want them to do well–when they do well, we do well. It's exciting to be in a business where you wish for good things for the people that get your horses.

"The goal of the farm is to breed a good racehorse first, and worry about trying to sell it after you've got it. If you get a good foal, who cares if the fashion has shifted to someone else. If you've got a good foal with every intention of crossing with the right lines, that's the important thing, that's what we'll remember. If you breed a good one, you breed a good one, that's lasting." ✹

"I think the family needs a little time to sort of get there, I think that's the thing about Chess Chief. I really think that he looks like he's maybe coming to form, like this is an important year, and I hope it is for him."

– Breeder Wayne Chatfield-Taylor

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# Everyday Sensation

## Walters reaches 1,500 wins as long career continues

By Paul Halloran. Photographs by Katherine Turnbull

At first glance, everything about David Walters says ordinary: wife and two (adult) children; lives in small-town America; shows up for work every day and puts in an honest effort; has achieved a degree of success, albeit at the lower levels of his chosen field; known as much for his integrity as his accomplishments. Seemingly, just an average Joe.

If it is possible, however, for someone to perfect the art of being ordinary to such a level that it becomes extraordinary, then David Walters is that person.

When Walters achieved a milestone of 1,500 wins as a trainer, Jan. 13 at Charles Town, it happened just before 11 p.m. on a winter weeknight and, between that and Covid-related attendance restrictions, his wife and daughters represented about half of the "crowd." That was fitting for a guy who has been flying under the radar for more than 40 years, but it should not lessen the magnitude of the achievement.

"We're just very proud of everything he's accomplished," said Ellen Walters, his wife of 42 years. "He puts his whole heart into it. His work ethic is beyond what you would imagine. He is hands-on and he has to be there every day. He has a love for these animals."

Owner Dick Knapp, who has been sending horses to Walters for more than 20 years, echoed the sentiment.

"David is there every morning, he's there for feeding every night and he works the farm," Knapp said. "He is working all the time and he does it extremely well. I'm pleased to have him as a trainer."

Even when Ellen—who handles all the paperwork for the stable and has given herself the title of racing manager—convinces him to take a break and escape to Las Vegas for a few days, David's thoughts never really leave the stable.

"By the third day, he's anxious to get home," she said. "He needs to get back to his horses."

It is a passion for his profession that Walters was born and married into.

"My dad owned horses his whole life," said David, who grew up in Maryland. "As a teenager, I became interested. I never thought about being a trainer until I was 16 or 17. My brother, Henry, and I worked for my other brother, John, and I learned through that experience."

Ellen's grandfather, James M.P. Bell Sr., was a trainer who ran a horse the night Charles Town opened, Dec. 2, 1933. Her father, Robert Hilton, won more than 2,500 races in a training career that spanned 43 years. Her mother, Ann, also played a key role in the operation.

"I don't know anything else," said Ellen, a lifelong Charles Town resident. "There's life out there outside of horses?"

For others, but not for the Walterses.

They met at Timonium in 1977, when David was working for Joe Tuminelli and Ellen's grandfather, the stall man, introduced them. Other than her visits to Aberdeen, Md., to visit her grandparents, it was a long-distance relationship, which mainly consisted of David driving to West Virginia.

"Our dates were at the track," Ellen said. "We had stuff to talk about. I wasn't very hard to please."

They were married in 1979, the year David saddled his first winner—Will John, a 9-year-old Ellen's father had bred and later claimed back to help get him started. David, who worked for Hilton before he and Ellen got married, was based in Maryland until 1981, when he decided to take his four-horse stable to Charles Town. Four decades later, he has never left.

"Her dad was an inspiration to me," Walters said. "I learned a lot from him. He looked out for his horses. He wanted longevity."

That is a lesson Walters learned well. He has had some very good years, including 1991, when he had his most wins (79); 1998, when he was the win leader (68) at Charles Town; and 2001, when his horses earned $866,790. He has won the Sadie Hawkins Stakes six times, three "Cavada" Stakes on the West Virginia Breeders Classics cards and eight Breeders Classics stakes overall.

*David Walters tends to a horse on the farm at feeding time, and takes a moment with his family (from left) wife Ellen, grandson Ty Vickers, son-in-law Larnie Vickers, granddaughter Kendall Vickers, daughter Samantha Vickers, daughter Vanessa Walters and mother-in-law Ann Hilton.*

Yet, Walters takes as much satisfaction in a horse like Par Halo, a gelding who had run in a few stakes in Maryland before becoming a hard-knocking claimer whom Walters bought for Edwin Wrenn.

"He limped out of the stall when we picked him up at Laurel," Walters said. "I knew the talent was there. They just gave up on him."

Par Halo went on to win 13 races for Walters—nine at Charles Town, three at Delaware and one at Pimlico—and serves as the perfect example of the trainer's patience and commitment to every horse in his care.

"I've had a lot of cheaper claimers and those horses are my favorites," he said. "They have problems, you work on them. I got a lot of outcasts over the years. It taught me that if you take care of your horses, they will continue to run for you. I think it takes a better trainer to get a cheap horse to run than a good one. They make you proud when they win."

Walters has had some good ones, led by Carnival Chrome, who went 10-for-16 lifetime, earned $488,688 and won the Sadie Hawkins four times and the Cavada. He trained three other horses who eclipsed $200,000 in earnings: Longfield Star, who won the 2001 Cavada; Gold Standard, whom he also owned; and Cuppa Mocha Mojo, who won the 2015 Cavada.

The Walterses keep a few broodmares at the farm and dabble in breeding, with Eutaw Street and Fear the Turtle (the latter out of Longfield Star) having earned more than $335,000 combined. Ellen has become proficient at recommending stallions for the mares, but the primary focus is on the racing operation.

Carnival Chrome's owner, Michael Miller, is a 25-year client of Walters, to whom he was introduced by Maryland trainer Scott Regan.

"Trainers don't always tell you the truth. They hide things," Miller said. "David tells me the way it is, good and bad. He is a great horseman."

Larry Brafman, who estimates he has had 100 horses with Walters over the last 35 years, echoed Miller's sentiments.

"When David tells you something, you don't have to wonder if you're getting the true story," said Brafman, who had horses with Walters' father-in-law when he was starting out as an owner. "I trust him explicitly. He treats me like my money is his money."

Money has never been the primary motivator for Walters, which is why he has been content to stay at Charles Town, where he and Ellen have lived for 36 years on the 90-acre farm her parents owned.

"I always liked it here," Walters said. "It fit the kind of stock I was going to have. I didn't have any high-powered owners. We were running for $1,800 purses when I started and my day rate was $15, but we made a living."

A very good living, when looking at the big picture. David and Ellen have two daughters—Samantha, who is married to Lawrence Vickers, and Vanessa—and two grandchildren, Ty and Kendall Vickers.

"The girls and the grandchildren are his world," Ellen said.

That brings us to Jan. 13. Walters had lost five consecutive races since saddling his 1,499th a month earlier. Ellen, Samantha and Vanessa had dutifully shown up each time, not wanting to miss the milestone. "I'm really glad the girls hung in there," Ellen said. "They came every night."

When 4-year-old filly Urkillingmebeth won the finale by 2¾ lengths (in her first start in more than a year), Walters had joined the 1,500-win club. Predictably, he felt just as good for his family as himself.

"Seeing the people close to me happy makes me happy," he said.

The track played a video that had been created by Walters' granddaughter and there was the customary winner's circle photo, with a sign marking the occasion. That was about it. Walters is not big on pomp and circumstance, and 4:30 comes early in the morning.

"Everybody went home and went to bed," he said.

An ordinary ending to an extraordinary night. ✹

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# Steady Partners

## Shackled Love gives ZWP, Capuano yet another Maryland-bred standout

BY CINDY DEUBLER. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JIM MCCUE

Foard Wilgis, Dave Picarello and trainer and partner Gary Capuano have been down this road before—coming into the spring racing season in Maryland with an on-the-rise 3-year-old. The latest is Shackled Love, a homebred son of Preakness Stakes-G1 winner Shackleford who burst onto the scene with a determined score in Laurel Park's $100,000 Private Terms Stakes March 13, one of the steps on the Maryland calendar to the Preakness.

"He's a really big, long, lanky kind of horse," said Capuano. "He's just been improving from when he first started running last fall. And he's been maturing and getting better and better."

Shackled Love made his stakes debut in the Private Terms, after a March 12 race was canceled as a precaution after a horse at Laurel tested positive for EHV-1. Shackled Love battled favorite Maythehorsebwithu the entire trip and pulled out a half-length win at 21-1, stopping the clock in 1:43.56.

After being rescheduled to April 24 (too late for magazine deadlines), the $125,000 Federico Tesio, which offered a free Preakness entry to the winner, was the next target though Shackled Love missed a week of training after the Private Terms.

The prospects of running in the Preakness were dimming, but that isn't ever the main goal for runners for ZWP Stable (Wilgis and Picarello) and Non Stop Stable (Capuano).

"With this one, we didn't know how good he was going to be," said Wilgis. "After the race he was entered in got canceled, and there weren't any races coming up, Gary said 'Let's just go in there and see what happens.' We didn't expect to win—that was really a tough field."

Capuano has trained for ZWP from the beginning of their horse adventure, when Wilgis thought it would be fun to

*A winning team: Dave Picarello and Foard Wilgis (front, from left), with Shackled Love, jockey Charlie Marquez and trainer Gary Capuano.*

not only bet on the races, but have his friends and co-workers buy a racehorse.

Wilgis, who worked with the television show *Homicide: Life on the Street* being filmed in Baltimore in the early 1990s, had about 25 drivers working for him (he was the transportation coordinator), and every day he'd send someone to the track to place bets. He suggested they each chip in $2,000, go to the sale, buy a horse and see what happened.

"I just assumed we'd do that, run him for a while, someone would claim him, we'd be out of the business, and we could say we owned a horse," said Wilgis.

By the time the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December mixed sale came up in 1992, everyone dropped out but three–Wilgis, Picarello and Kenny Ziegler.

With $6,000 to spend, they bought the first horse they bid on, a yearling Cherokee Colony filly bred by Thomas Evans of Buckland Farm for $5,500. Not knowing where to turn next, they hooked up with Capuano after a friend suggested the young Bowie-based trainer. "And we never left him," said Wilgis.

ZWP named its filly Cherokee Wonder, and got a stakes winner. She ran 51 times, earned just shy of $300,000 (and would have been over the mark had she not been disqualified from a win in New York, noted Wilgis) and placed in a graded stakes.

Along the way, Ziegler "got cold feet" and was bought out. And Cherokee Wonder became a broodmare.

She died after delivering her third foal, who also died, in February 2001 but her two surviving foals were stakes performers. Cherokee's Boy won 14 stakes, became a millionaire, was Maryland-bred champion 2-year-old in 2002 and Horse of the Year in 2005 and stood at stud in Maryland. Cherokee Wonder's first foal, daughter Runnin Wonder, was stakes-placed and produced stakes winner Wonder Mon as her first foal.

In 2003, off a win in the Tesio, Cherokee's Boy took Wilgis and Picarello to the Preakness where he finished eighth behind Funny Cide. Wonder Mon looked to be a Triple Crown prospect in 2008, but after a campaign in Florida during the winter he fell ill and didn't regain his form to give the classics a try.

The loss of Cherokee Wonder was a blow, but it didn't take long to find another quality mare.

Capuano bought Slow and Steady, a filly from the first crop of Maryland-based Malibu Moon, as a yearling at the 2002 Midlantic December mixed sale, paying $14,500. "I really liked the way she looked," said Capuano, "and I liked Malibu Moon and the Cure the Blues side of the mare."

Wilgis called his trainer and asked what he was going to do with the filly, and said ZWP would take her.

Slow and Steady won or placed in 14 of 20 starts and earned $123,510. She flew past those achievements as a broodmare as nine of her 10 named foals have won. Her first, the Soto colt Cappiwino (the partners laugh that he was named by Picarello for Capuano who is said "to always be whining about something") sold privately to Godolphin Racing after he aired by more than 10 lengths in his 2-year-old debut at Laurel Park in 2009.

The sale turned things around for the stable, as the money was able to pay a lot of bills. At about the same time, Capuano went partners with ZWP in ownership of Slow and Steady.

In the wings was the mare's second foal, Steady Warrior, a son of Cherokee's Boy named Maryland-bred champion 2-year-old of 2010 after winning two stakes. He would eventually amass $253,876.

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Slow and Steady's best offspring since is Not For Love's daughter Steady N Love. Earning $241,305 after winning or placing in five stakes, she is the dam of Shackled Love.

"Foard and Dave are very patient," said Capuano. "Foard is so upbeat–his glass is always full, even if there is a drop in there. It makes it a lot of fun because he wants to do what's best for the horses, and he doesn't mind if a horse needs time. He and Dave are great. Never push you, and do the right thing by the horses. It makes my job a lot easier."

Steady N Love's 2-year-old Creative Cause colt Lockdown Larry is in Florida. Before they foal, the mares are under the care of the Bowmans on the Eastern Shore; Steady N Love produced a Bolt d'Oro colt at Roland Farm March 23.

Slow and Steady's youngest is a yearling filly by Cross Traffic; now 20, she is due in May to the cover of Great Notion.

As to what the future holds, Wilgis is philosophical: "In this business, it is what it is. You just have to be lucky. That's all there is too it. Taking care of them and doing the right thing by them, that's the most important thing."

**NOTES:** Multiple EHV-1 cases shut down racing for two weeks, limited training hours and restricted ship-ins at Laurel Park in March and April. Racing resumed April 8 and the Maryland Jockey Club planned to add days to the schedule in June and July. Laurel's shortened spring meet was set to end May 2, with the Maryland schedule moving to Pimlico Race Course May 5-31 for 15 live days before returning to Laurel June 3 – though problems with Laurel's dirt surface in mid-April threatened to change that schedule and accelerate the move to Pimlico . . . Trainer Claudio Gonzalez won the shortened winter meet (which ended March 28) with 28 wins, followed by Mike Trombetta (17) and Jerry Robb (15). Brittany Russell went 12-for-35 . . . Despite serving a suspension that kept him on the sidelines for March, Alexander Crispin won the jockeys' title 33-32 over Sheldon Russell . . . Super C Racing and Michael Scheffres won eight races each to land atop the owners' standings. ✹


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*Cordmaker won the $100,000 Harrison E. Johnson Memorial on March 13, bringing his lifetime earnings to $588,640 for Hillwood Stable and trainer Rodney Jenkins.*

## March stakes results for Laurel Park

**3/13 Beyond The Wire** ($100K). 1 mi. 3YO F.

Winner: **LITTLESTITIOUS** (b.f., Ghostzapper—Broadway Play, by Quality Road). B-Mercedes Stables (Ky.). O-Joel Politi. T-Thomas M. Amoss. J-Sheldon Russell. Time: 1:36.75. Margin: ½. 2nd: **Fraudulent Charge**. 3rd: **Street Lute**.

**3/13 Harrison E. Johnson Memorial** ($100K). 1⅛ mi. 4&up.

Winner: **CORDMAKER** (ch.g., 6, Curlin—Tanca, by Polish Numbers). B-Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss (Md.). O-Hillwood Stable. T-Rodney Jenkins. J-Victor R. Carrasco. Time: 1:49.37. Margin: 1. 2nd: **Galerio**. 3rd: **Dixie Drawl**.

**3/13 Private Terms** ($100K). 1 1⁄16 mi. 3YO.

Winner: **SHACKLED LOVE** (b.g., Shackleford—Steady N Love, by Not For Love). B/O-ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable (Md.). T-Gary Capuano. J-Charlie Marquez. Time: 1:43.56. Margin: ½. 2nd: **Maythehorsebwithu**. 3rd: **Excellorator**.

**3/13 Conniver** ($75K). 7 F. Reg. MD-Bred or Sired, 4&up, F&M.

Winner: **KISS THE GIRL** (b.f., 4, Into Mischief—Spin the Bottle, by Hard Spun). B-Classic Thoroughbred XII (Md.). O-Three Diamonds Farm. T-Michael J. Trombetta. J-Victor R. Carrasco. Time: 1:23.21. Margin: ¾. 2nd: **Lookin Dynamic**. 3rd: **Whispering Pines**.

**3/13 Not For Love** ($75K). 6 F. Reg. MD-Bred or Sired, 4&up.

Winner: **WHERESHETOLDMETOGO** (ch.g., 6, El Padrino—Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute). B-David H. Wade (Md.). O-Madaket Stables, Ten Strike Racing, Michael E. Kisber and Black Cloud Racing Stable. T-Brittany Russell. J-Sheldon Russell. Time: 1:09.82. Margin: 2½. 2nd: **Karan's Notion**. 3rd: **Day the Music Died**.

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# Winning Producer

## Sons Intercept, Pictor lead the way in fast start to 2021 for mare Listen In

BY MELISSA BAUER-HERZOG. PHOTOGRAPHS BY LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

*Trainer Kim Graci gives Intercept—who also doesn't lack for toys—his morning treat at Penn National.*

For most mares, having multiple foals visit the winner's circle a few times in their careers is the dream. For Listen In, it's just another year in Pennsylvania.

In 2021 three of her four active runners won eight of their 10 starts at Penn National Race Course through April 12 and a fourth nearly won an allowance at the track. For Listen In's owner Larry Karp, watching the four horses he bred and owned at the beginning of their careers win for other people seems as exciting as seeing them win in his Barlar colors.

"Every single one of those horses you see out there is owned by someone else, and I am thrilled for them every time they hit the board with those horses because I get my breeder awards," Karp said. "I have very little to cheer about these days because I don't have any horses in training ready to run, so I watch all of these horses that are out of Listen In. She has four foals on the ground running right now. One of the interesting things about Listen In, her progeny tend to get better with age."

Karp has a long history with Listen In, one of the first horses he bought after relocating his operation from Illinois to Pennsylvania 12 years ago.

Purchased at the 2009 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May 2-year-old sale for $20,000 by Albert Davis on behalf of Karp, the Pennsylvania-bred daughter of Wiseman's Ferry kicked off the Pennsylvania move in style. She won five of 16 starts with five other top-three finishes for $196,332

*Bryan Bushey (left) of Bush Racing Stable and trainer Tim Kreiser show off half-siblings (and 2021 Penn National winners) Pictor and Wiretap.*

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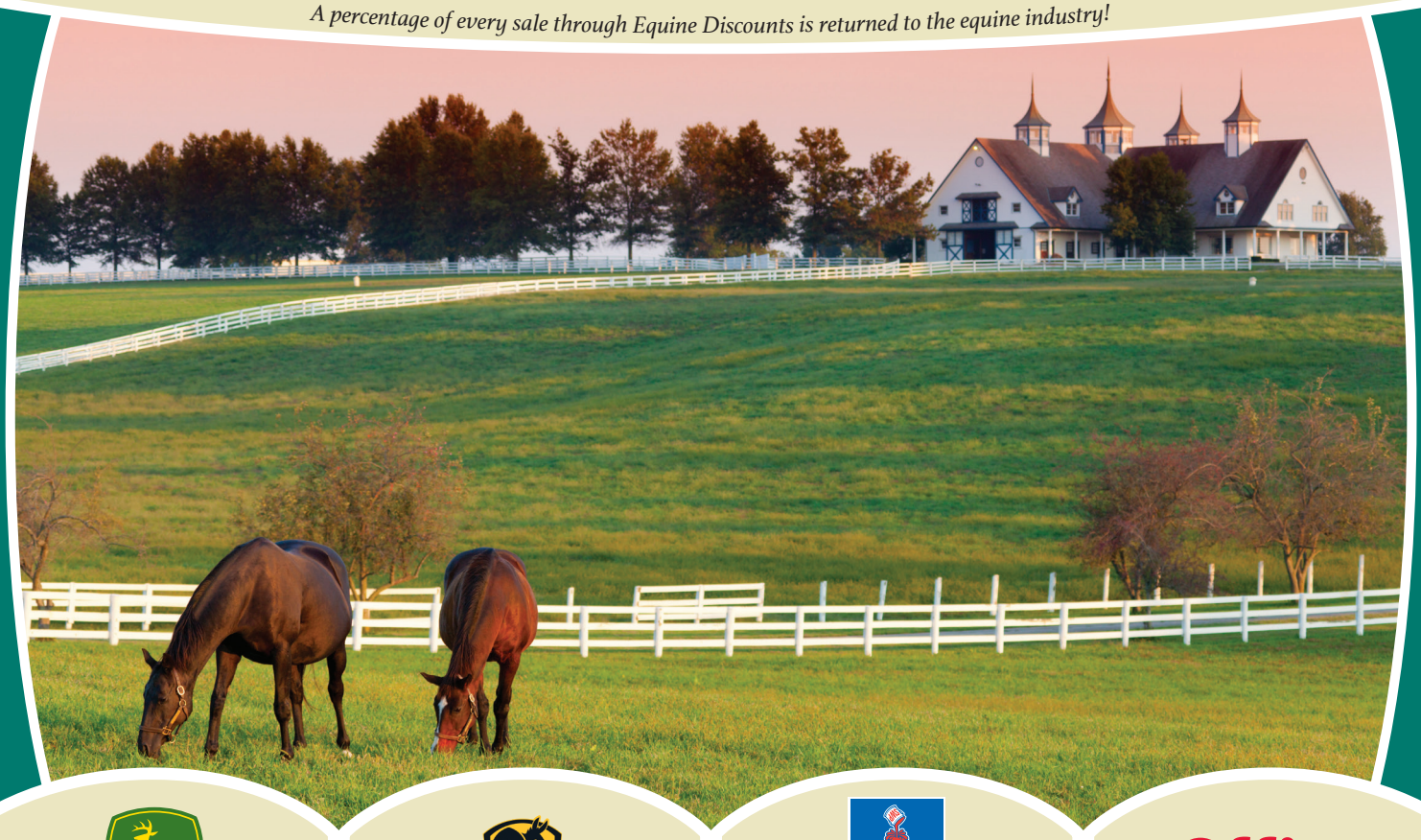

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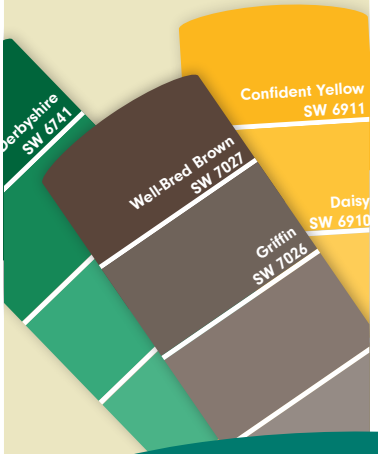


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in earnings. She also became Karp's first stakes winner in the region when she scored in the 2009 Blue Mountain Stakes at Penn National.

Listen In's racing career was only the beginning as she turned into a productive broodmare after retiring in late 2011. All five of her foals have made it to the track and have collectively won 39 races.

The mare's 8-year-old Jump Start gelding Intercept was the first to kick off Listen In's Penn National domination with a maiden win at the track in 2016. Only leaving Penn National five times in his 41-race career, Intercept has been a mainstay at the track for trainer Kim Graci, who claimed him for $5,000 in late October 2017.

The partnership looked like it would end when he kicked off 2021 with a win–and a claim–but Graci was quick to drop a tag in the claim box for his next race. The gelding won by 4 lengths and returned to the stall he'd occupied for much of his career.

"Intercept is like the barn mascot," Graci said. "He has been in my care since the end of October 2017. He makes my day when I'm able to walk in and see him every morning."

Graci has seen three of Listen In's foals in her barn at one time or another, including Pictor, who also won three of his first four starts in 2021.

"Pictor is built a little differently than [Intercept], he is more stocky," Graci said. "I really didn't have him long enough to get to know his whole personality, but he was a pleasure to be around. When he first came to the barn, he didn't eat candy, but he was eating it in no time. Intercept and Pictor have a whole bunch of talent, they always try. The whole family tries."

While Intercept has spent much of his time in one barn, 5-year-old Munnings gelding Pictor has been popular at the claim box. Claimed five times since late September 2020 when Graci was the first to win a claim for him, it took current owner Bush Racing Stable two shots to get him.

"It's kind of a funny story, six starts back he ran for $8,000 and I wanted to claim him that day," said Bush Racing Stable's David Bushey. "My trainer said, 'I don't know, let's just watch him.' So, we watched him, then I tried to claim him for $6,250 the next start and lost a four-way shake. The very next start they put him in a $4,000 race and I was thinking, 'If I liked him for $6,250, I love him for 4' and it was just a two-way shake. Isn't that funny? Four people wanted him for $6,250 and only two people wanted him for $4,000."

That claim proved a smart one with Pictor kicking off 2021 with a victory in that $4,000 race. Trainer Tim Kreiser wheeled him back a little over a week later and Pictor made easy work of that run as well. But it was his second start with the barn that Pictor showed his best–winning by 5¾ lengths to earn his third win of the year.

"He's just been a really fun horse in the barn," Bushey said. "Obviously when you claim a horse for $4,000, you're not expecting a lot. He's certainly exceeded our expectations and a fun thing with a horse like him, particularly in the Mid-Atlantic is he's starter eligible now for–depending on the racetrack–up to two years."

Pictor's success also convinced his connections to add another sibling to their arsenal when seeing his 3-year-old Tapiture half-sister Wiretap in for $10,000 March 10. Winning her second straight start to stay undefeated in 2021, Wiretap then found herself just down the shedrow from Pictor after the race.

"I did a little research in terms of the family and what was out there," Bushey said of the claim. "I noticed he had a half-sister and [by Tapiture] she was pretty well-bred. I thought, 'We have Pictor in the barn, this horse can run. Why not take a shot on his 3-year-old half-sister?' I was keeping an eye on her and when she ran for $10,000 last time, I pulled the trigger on her."

Listen In has spent most of her years being bred to stallions Karp owns shares in, other than the two seasons in Kentucky that produced Pictor and Wiretap, and has returned to that plan in recent years. Suffering some tough luck when losing her 2019 foal by the Karp-owned Alliance, she wasn't bred that year. She returned to Alliance last year and recently foaled a filly with plans calling for her to return to that stallion in 2021.

"I'm trying to make Alliance as a stallion," Karp said of the unraced Harlan's Holiday half-brother to champion Tepin and multiple graded stakes winner Vyjack. "To be successful in the Mid-Atlantic, you don't necessarily have to have a stallion with Grade 1 horses. What you need is a stallion who throws winners, solid horses day in and day out. So, if you're trying to make a stallion, you want mares who throw winners regardless of who the sire is–like a Listen In. Those are the kind of mares you want to have so I'm thrilled to own her and breed her to Alliance."

While Karp has bred and raced graded stakes winners, he's happy with the current status of his program. Listen In is the kind of mare he dreams of having in his broodmare band–one that throws honest, durable runners.

"If I could have a barn full of mares that could just throw hard-knocking winners, I don't need stakes horses, that can run I'm a happy camper," he said. "Between the purse structure and the breeder money and whatever, you can do very nicely and stay in this business a long time. The [Pennsylvania] breeding program is what makes the difference."

## Penn Mile returns

After a break in 2020 due to Covid-19, the $300,000 Penn Mile Stakes-G2 and $100,000 Penn Oaks will return May 28.

"We are excited to once again offer the Penn Mile as it signals a return to normalcy," said Penn National's Director of Racing Operation Eric Johnston. "The race has quickly established itself on the national racing calendar by bringing the best horses, horsemen and jockeys to central Pennsylvania while also helping to establish some of the highest betting handles in Penn National history."

First run in 2013, the Penn Mile's winners' list includes Canadian Horse of the Year Catch a Glimpse, Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint-G1 winner Bobby's Kitten and Grade 1 winner (and former Maryland sire) Force the Pass.

First post for Penn Mile Day will be 6 p.m. with the Penn Oaks scheduled to run at approximately 7:15 and the Penn Mile at 7:45. Penn Mile Day in 2019 produced the second largest betting handle in the track's history with the track's top five all-time wagering handles all coming on Penn Mile cards. ✹

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# STAKES WINNERS

Complete statistics on 2021 Mid-Atlantic-bred stakes winners available at MidAtlanticTB.com, including interactive pedigrees, race records, produce records of dam, and more.

## Maryland-bred

**CORDMAKER**, ch.g., 2015, Curlin—Tanca, by Polish Numbers. Bred by Robert T. Manfuso & Katharine M. Voss; owned by Hillwood Stable; trained by Rodney Jenkins. $100,000 **Harrison E. Johnson Memorial S**, 1⅛ mi., 4&up, Laurel, March 13; 3rd **John B. Campbell S, Jennings S**.

**I GET IT**, b.f., 2018, Get Stormy—Twisted Beauty, by General Quarters. Bred by Flying H Stables; owned by Gary Barber; trained by Ronald B. Spatz. $100,000 **Sanibel Island S**, 1 mi., turf, 3YO fillies, Gulfstream, March 27; 3rd **Herecomesthebride S-G3**.

**KISS THE GIRL**, b.f., 2017, Into Mischief—Spin the Bottle, by Hard Spun. Bred by Classic Thoroughbred XII; owned by Three Diamonds Farm; trained by Michael J. Trombetta. $75,000 **Conniver S**, 7 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired F&M, 4&up, Laurel, March 13; 2nd **Geisha S**.

**SHACKLED LOVE**, b.g., 2018, Shackleford—Steady N Love, by Not For Love. Bred & owned by ZWP Stable & Non Stop Stable; trained by Gary Capuano. $100,000 **Private Terms S**, 1 1/16 mi., 3YOs, Laurel, March 13.

**WHERESHETOLDMETOGO**, ch.g., 2015, El Padrino—Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute. Bred by David H. Wade; owned by Madaket Stables, Ten Strike Racing, Michael E. Kisber & Black Cloud Stable; trained by Brittany Russell. $75,000 **Not For Love S**, 6 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired, 4&up, Laurel, March 13.

## Pennsylvania-bred

**SWEET BYE AND BYE**, gr./ro.m., 2015, Sky Mesa—Twiggles, by Maria's Mon. Bred & owned by Joseph Imbesi; trained by Saffie A. Joseph Jr. $100,000 **Sand Springs S**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, F&M, 4&up, Gulfstream, March 27; 2nd **Marshua's River S-G3**.

## Virginia-bred

**CHESS CHIEF**, b.h., 2016, by Into Mischief—Un Blessed, by Mineshaft. Bred by Morgan's Ford Farm; owned by Estate of James J. Coleman Jr.; trained by Dallas Stewart. $400,000 **New Orleans Classic S-G2**, 1⅛ mi., 4&up, Fair Grounds, March 20; 3rd **Mineshaft S-G3**.

RYAN THOMPSON/COGLIANESE PHOTOS

*Above, MD-bred 3-year-old filly I GET IT was one of two Mid-Atlantic breds to win stakes at Gulfstream March 27. She captured the Sanibel Island; PA-bred older mare SWEET BYE AND BYE took the Sand Springs.*

LAUREN KING/COGLIANESE PHOTOS

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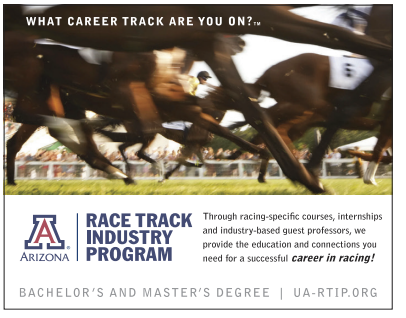


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# Color in the Rock

A bloodstock agent's relationship with each of his or her clients is as different as a doctor and her patient, a lawyer and his client, or a shop owner and her customer. Each client needs a particular amount and type of attention depending on his level of confidence and willingness to devote time and energy to the breeding or racing operation involved. Some clients want advice on mating decisions while others are fascinated by genetics and all of the arcane details of in-breeding and out-crossing. Some want you to be present whenever the blacksmith is there to trim the foals' and yearlings' feet. Some just need a visit a few times a year to check on the young horses' progress. Finally, others board their mares at your farm and never even visit to see their horses.

The clients who are most confident don't need hand-holding or mating advice; they just want you to sell their horse when the time is right. These normally need a farm visit in the spring to discuss and decide which sale is right for their yearlings or to decide which ones are suitable for sale and which are not commercially viable and need to race for their breeder or be sold through some other route. Occasionally, an agent gets a cold call from a breeder who is not a regular client but has a yearling he has decided to sell.

It's always exciting to visit a farm and see horses you've never seen before. There is an element of precious-metal prospecting that adds to the drama. When you walk out into a field with several yearlings running around, your eye is always drawn to one. The one with size, substance and presence makes your mind repeat, "I hope it's that one. I hope it's that one. I hope it's that one." Usually, it's not. It's the little, light, back-at-the-knee filly bringing up the rear. But once in awhile it is, and you become really excited. You've found the color in the rock.

One such gold strike occurred in 1993. Dick and Nancy Sinkler were wonderful clients who had a farm in Rhode Island. They were and are terrific horsemen who bred and raced their own horses and, occasionally, would sell a yearling if they thought it was worth the effort. For a number of years, I would make an annual visit in the spring to see the yearlings and discuss their plans. Since they lived seven or eight hours away and we were foaling a lot of mares, it was hard for me to get away overnight.

I discovered that, if I got on an Amtrak train at midnight in Wilmington, I could be in Rhode Island around 6:30 a.m. It was a long ride sitting up and trying, unsuccessfully, to sleep.

Dick would meet me at the station and we would have breakfast before visiting the farm. This particular year I was there to look at a New Jersey-bred colt by Fit to Fight out of a 17-year-old Dr. Fager mare who had produced six winners from 10 foals. The mare, Exponential, had won four races and was a full-sister to champion sprinter Dr. Patches. However, her most accomplished runner had been a Riverman colt called El Jefe who placed in a stakes and earned $151,307.

Dick and I enjoyed breakfast and headed out to the farm. Nancy was there to meet us and we chatted for a while and looked at some foals in a paddock with their mothers. Finally, it was time to look at the colt. We went into their picturesque New England barn. Nancy brought the colt out of his stall. The first thing I saw was a beautiful head with a lovely big eye. Then came the neck, and then more neck, and then more neck followed by a shoulder, and more shoulder followed by a well sprung ribcage and a massive hindquarter. My eyes were bugging out of my head. No horse is perfect but this one was perfect adjacent. Without a thought, he was a Keeneland September horse. After I got my eyes back in my head, we had lunch and Dick and Nancy put me back on the train for Wilmington. It was a much shorter ride home.

In July, the Sinklers brought the colt to Charlton for sales preparation and he did not disappoint. Selling on Friday of the first week which was the middle day of a nine-day sale, he became the proverbial "wise guy horse." Everyone who came to the barn wanted to buy him, or part of him, before he went through the ring. I heard every argument about how he was deep in the sale and would get lost in the shuffle. Each offer was duly conveyed to Dick and Nancy and Dick would smile and say, "Why would I want to do that?"

I've written before about placement and the ability of professional buyers to find a good horse no matter where it is placed in a sale.

My experience has been that, when an agent wants to buy a horse before it goes to the ring, it means that he already has a client tied on and is trying to make a buck at his client's expense. Unless he's the type of person who won't buy a horse unless he's making something (and there are those) he's going to buy the horse anyway because he's expended so much energy convincing the client that this is the horse for him or her.

When we led the Fit to Fight colt up, he drew a large crowd. Agents were still trying to buy him in the back walking ring and Dick just stood there with his enigmatic smile and said, "No." He walked into the ring and, after spirited bidding, sold for $80,000, a huge price for a colt by a solid but unspectacular sire. This occurred on a day when the average was $22,700. The entire sale averaged $35,000.

Having clients with the courage of their convictions goes a long way toward success in the bloodstock business. ✹

# Maryland Horse®

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# Selima Room collection has a long history

By Cindy Deubler

Peter Winants Collection/Maryland Horse Library

**The Selima Room in 1969, shortly after its opening.**

The Selima Room was unique. It offered horse enthusiasts a little slice of heaven at the Bowie branch of the Prince George's County Memorial Library for nearly 50 years. Thought to be the only collection of its kind in a public library in the country, it was available to anyone with an interest in horses. And its ties to history ran deep, as the library occupied land that was once part of the famed Belair Stud farm, the home of one of the great Thoroughbreds of the 18th century and collection's namesake, Selima.

When plans to renovate the Bowie library after 45 years were being discussed in 2014, the Selima Room was on the chopping block. MHBA staff learned of the collection's need for a new home and arrangements were made. By the time construction began in Bowie in January 2017, the entire collection had been boxed up and moved to storage, awaiting a chance to be back on display in the MHBA library.

Known for its diversity, the collection more than doubled in size during its Bowie years, from February 1969 through November 2016.

Contrary to popular belief, the Selima Room did not start with a collection from William Woodward (Sr. or Jr., the last owners of Belair Stud), but from a large donation from Laurel Race Course in 1968, which included nearly 2,000 volumes of books and manuscripts amassed by track operators since its opening in 1911.

Frank J. Brady, general manager and vice president of Laurel, made a formal presenation of the gift to Elizabeth B. Hage, the county library director, in the track's winner's circle following the 1968 Selima (for history buffs, Shuvee was the winner).

From hard-core handicappers (Andy Beyer was once said to have called it "a horseplayer's paradise"–for many years the *Daily Racing Form* was a library staple), to train-

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ers, to breeding enthusiasts and 4-Hers, the Selima Room saw plenty of foot traffic. And the collection was not limited to racing. "We also get a lot of young kids who just come in to thumb through the magazines and books and look at horse pictures," said librarian Susan Stephenson in 1974. Hired in July 1970, Stephenson oversaw the collection for more than 45 years.

The Selima Room shelves held many treasures, among them complete sets of *American Race Horses* (1936-63) and The Jockey Club's *Racing In America* series, as well as the English published *Racing At Home and Abroad*, chronicling the beginnings of the sport.

The hundreds of books, many out-of-print or hard to find, cover an array of topics–horses, races, all manner of careers with horses, all disciplines. And one slender volume seemed destined for the shelf: *Belair Stud, 1741-61*, published in 1929, which provides history of the land where the collection was born. And the Selima Room's new home, in Thoroughbred-rich Baltimore County, has a history all its own. ❧

# Maryland Fund Stakes Recaps

Jim McCue

## Kiss the Girl

**Conniver Stakes**
$75,000-guaranteed, 7 fur., registered Maryland-bred or sired fillies and mares, 4 & up. Laurel Park, March 13.

B.f., 2017, by Into Mischief—Spin the Bottle, by Hard Spun. Bred by Classic Thoroughbred XII; owned by Three Diamonds Farm; trained by Michael J. Trombetta. Foaled at Country Life Farm, Bel Air, Md.

*Lifetime*

| *starts* | *1st* | *2nd* | *3rd* | *earnings* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12 | 4 (1) | 2 (2) | 2 | $221,056 |

(through March 13)

**2019:** 2nd **Schuylerville S-G3**. **2021:** 1st $75,000 **Conniver S**, 7 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired fillies and mares, 4 & up, Laurel, March 13; 2nd **Geisha S**.

Kiss the Girl has always been star material. The daughter of Into Mischief topped the 2018 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale on a $210,000 bid by Three Diamonds Farm. She broke her maiden at Belmont Park first time out in June 2019, and immediately stepped up to stakes competition, missing by a neck when second in the Grade 3 Schuylerville at Saratoga.

But it took a dozen tries for her to break through as a stakes winner, which she accomplished when digging in down the stretch in the $75,000 Conniver Stakes at Laurel Park March 13.

Following a second in the Geisha Stakes in January, her first start of the year, Kiss the Girl went off as the 2-1 favorite in the Conniver and settled on the outside in fourth as 2020 Geisha winner Artful Splatter led through the first quarter-mile in :23.31.

Artful Splatter increased her lead around the turn through a half-mile in :46.31, but couldn't keep up with the hard-charging Kiss the Girl, who took over late and held off Lookin Dynamic to win by three-quarters of a length. Final time for the 7 furlongs was 1:23.21.

Trainer Mike Trombetta said the victory "means a lot to all of us. It's always fun to win a stake, but you take a filly that has this type of pedigree and it becomes very important."

Initially trained by Todd Pletcher and later Steve Asmussen, Kiss the Girl moved to the Maryland-based Trombetta after an off-the-board finish in Delaware Park's Christiana Stakes last July. In five starts since she's recorded two wins, a second, a third and a fourth.

Her overall record improved to 4-2-2 from 12 starts for $221,056 in earnings.

Bred by Classic Thoroughbred XII, Kiss the Girl is the first foal and only starter from her dam Spin the Bottle, a Maryland-bred daughter of Hard Spun and half-sister to graded stakes-placed sprinter Nathan's H Q. The mare has a yearling filly by Malibu Moon and a daughter of Classic Empire this year. She is being bred to 2020 champion older dirt male Improbable.

## Whereshetoldmetogo

**Not For Love Stakes**
$75,000-guaranteed, 6 fur., registered Maryland-bred or sired, 4 & up. Laurel Park, March 13.

Ch.g., 2015, El Padrino—Undisputed Legend, by Domestic Dispute. Bred by David H. Wade; owned by Madaket Stables LLC, Ten Strike Racing, Michael E. Kisber and Black Cloud Stable LLC; trained by Brittany Russell. Foaled at Sycamore Hall, Chesapeake City, Md.

*Lifetime*

| *starts* | *1st* | *2nd* | *3rd* | *earnings* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 | 10 (7) | 5 (3) | 2 (2) | $586,291 |

(through March 13)

**2017:** 1st $75,000 **First State Dash S**, 5½ fur., Del.-bred or certified 2-year-olds, Delaware, Sept. 30; 2nd **Smooth Air S.** **2018:** 1st $60,000 **American Fabius S**, 7 fur., 3-year-olds who had started for a claiming price of $50,000 or less, Gulfstream, Feb. 17; $75,000 **Concern S**, 7 fur., 3-year-olds, Laurel, July 7; $75,000 **Star de Naskra S**, 6 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired 3-year-olds, Laurel, Aug. 18; 2nd **Gallant Bob S-G3**. **2019:** 3rd **Thanksgiving Classic S.** **2020:** 1st $100,000 **Frank Y. Whiteley S**, 6 fur., 3 & up, Laurel, Nov. 28; $100,000 **Dave's Friend S**, 6 fur., 3 & up, Laurel, Dec. 26; 2nd **New Castle S**; 3rd **Iowa Sprint S**. **2021:** 1st $75,000 **Not For Love S**, 6 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired, 4 & up, Laurel, March 13.

A model of consistency, Whereshetoldmetogo kicked off his 6-year-old campaign with a dominating 2½-length victory in the $75,000 Not For Love Stakes at Laurel Park March 13.

Back in the gate after a nearly three-month layoff, Whereshetoldmetogo was sent off the 1-5 favorite against six others. It was a hotly contested dash at the start as 5 lengths covered the field through an opening quarter of :22.48, with the favorite about 3 lengths off pacesetters Stroll Smokin and Carey Times. As they flew into the turn after the half in :45.20, Whereshetoldmetogo moved around

longshot Day the Music Died, went four wide, grabbed the lead at the top of the stretch and charged to the wire. Once again the flashy chestnut made it interesting as he lugged in late, but didn't impede any of those behind, the closest being Karan's Notion, who rallied after having to check earlier in the race. Day the Music Died finished third. The final time was 1:09.82.

"The horse looked like he was comfortable the whole way," trainer Brittany Russell said. "Sheldon [Russell] had him in a good spot and they took care of it."

It was the gelding's third consecutive stakes win going 6 furlongs at Laurel, following a nose victory over Laki in the Frank Y. Whiteley back in November and a win over Taco Supream in the Dave's Friend in December. Though first to cross the wire in the 6-furlong New Castle Stakes at Delaware in September, Whereshetoldmetogo was disqualified to second.

Jim McCue

Campaigned by Black Cloud Racing (Mark Esposito), who purchased him for $7,000 as a yearling at the 2016 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall sale, and trained by Anthony Pecoraro, the son of El Padrino was a stakes winner at 2 and multiple stakes winner at 3 before Esposito sold a majority interest to a group led by Madaket Stables, along with Ten Strike Racing and Michael E. Kisber. In his first start for his new owners, he finished second to Firenze Fire in the Gallant Bob Stakes-G3 at Parx, where he tried to savage the winner near the wire.

Transferred to trainer Brad Cox in 2019, he made four starts, with his best runs an allowance victory at Churchill Downs and a third in the Thanksgiving Classic at Fair Grounds. After an eight-month hiatus, Whereshetoldmetogo returned last July to finish third in the Iowa Sprint Stakes at Prairie Meadows before being transferring to Russell, who has sent him to the post five times.

With 25 starts over five seasons, Whereshetoldmetogo holds a record of 10-5-2 and earnings of $586,291.

Bred by David Wade, the Not For Love winner is out of Undisputed Legend, a daughter of Domestic Dispute who has produced eight foals–her first five are all winners. Undisputed Legend's youngest is a 2-year-old by Great Notion named Rominski. The mare delivered a colt by Mendelssohn Feb. 12 and is back in foal to Vekoma.

# Maryland Foal Report

George Adams

**Jimmy Creed colt born in February is out of Kuznetsov, a half-sister to stakes winner Oldies But Goodies descending from Ran's Chick.**

ALL FLATTER, by Flatter, b.f., March 8, by Rainbow Heir. New Farm. Mare to Rainbow Heir.

CARAMORE, by Purge, ch.f., March 25, by Golden Lad. Timothy J. Rooney.

CELESSE, by Line of David, b.c., March 11, by Biblical. MCA Racing. Mare to Biblical.

DEBORAH'S MOMENT, by Lemon Drop Kid, b.c., March 6, by Audible. Thornmar. Mare to Mor Spirit.

DESIDERATA, by During, b.f., March 25, by Collected. Thornmar. Mare to Irish War Cry.

EL VEDADO, by Big Brown, ch.f., March 21, by Palace Malice. Big Lick Farm.

FLEAGLE KOWSKI, by Nicanor, b.f., Jan. 18, by Noble Mission (GB). Thomas J. Rooney. Mare to Golden Lad.

FOREST FUNDS, by Forestry, dkbbr.f., Feb. 15, by Rainbow Heir. New Farm. Mare to Rainbow Heir.

GABBY'S BROWN, by Big Brown, b.f., March 13, by Force the Pass. Clover Hill Farm Inc. Mare to Bourbon Courage.

GOODNIGHT ANGEL, by Touch Gold, b.f., March 14, by Blofeld. Thornmar. Mare to Friesan Fire.

GRISHAM, by Grindstone, b.f., March 11, by Rainbow Heir. New Farm. Mare to Rainbow Heir.

I'M ENGAGED, by Broken Vow, ch.f., March 8, by Include. Greenspring Mares LLC. Mare to Collected.

JUST DESSERTS, by Outflanker, b.f., March 21, by Great Notion. Mezza Luna Farm LLC. Mare to Madefromlucky.

KITTEN'S PEAK, by Kitten's Joy, dkbbr.c., March 30, by Tonalist. Warning Drums Racing LLC. Mare to Lookin At Lucky.

KUZNETSOV, by Great Notion, b.c., Feb. 11, by Jimmy Creed. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC, Greenspring Mares LLC and Connie S. Black. Mare to Include.

LUCKY DANCE, by Kafwain, b.c., Feb. 22, by Mr Speaker. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC and Housatonic Bloodstock LLC.

MAGICAL POINT, by Point Given, ch.f., Feb. 4, by Force the Pass. Wasabi Ventures, Greenspring Mares, Chris and Mary Denten, Connie S. Black. Mare to Weigelia.

MILA JANE, by Warrior's Reward, ch.f., March 16, by Biblical. Claudio A. Gonzalez. Mare to Biblical.

MINISTER OF PIECE, by Minister Slew, b.f., March 7, by Kendalls Bear. Charles Fawley Sr. and Dianne Fawley.

MISSION GOOD KARMA, by Mission Impazible, ch.c., Feb. 9, by Flameaway. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC and Greenspring Mares LLC. Mare to Jimmy Creed.

MY AUNT DIANNE, by Norquestor, b.c., March 11, by Barbados. James B. Steele Jr.

NO MORE EXCUSES, by Not For Love, b.c., Feb. 6, by Imagining. Housatonic Bloodstock LLC, Nicole Martin and Ciara Denicola. Mare to Goldencents.

ONE TWO THREE GO, by Hunters Bay, ch.c., March 11, by Biblical. MCA Racing. Mare to Biblical.

PATEL, by Skip Away, dkbbr.f., March 11, by Divining Rod. Joe Thomson. Mare to Mosler.

PROMENADE LANE, by Woodman, ch.f., Feb. 17, by Biblical. Shamrock Farm.

QUEEN DEL VALLE, by Baryshnikov, ch.c., March 23, by Gun Runner. Big Lick Farm.

RIDE THE TIDE, by Stormy Atlantic, ch.c., Feb. 16, by Force the Pass. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC, Suzette Parker, Thomas Johnson, Greenspring Mares LLC. Mare to Thousand Words.

RUNS IN THE FAMILY, by Noble Mission (GB), ch.f., March 12, by Biblical. MCA Racing LLC. Mare to Biblical.

SEVILLE'S PRINCESS, by Seville (Ger), b.c., March 8, by Force the Pass. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC and Greenspring Mares LLC. Mare to Blofeld.

SMILE BIG, by Big Drama, ch.c., March 23, by Brethren. Thomas J. Rooney. Mare to Divining Rod.

STOLEN DANCE, by Broken Vow, b.c., March 9, by Long River. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Adair Bonsal Jr.

SUNDAY IN MALIBU, by Malibu Moon, ch.c., March 21, by Holy Boss. Dr. Ronald Harris Parker. Mare to Bourbon Courage.

TAJOL, by Spring At Last, ch.f., April 1, by Barbados. Shamrock Farms. Mare to Barbados.

TERRA AQUA, by Cowboy Cal, dkbbr.f., March 31, by Divining Rod. Robin Graham and Mary Jones.

TIZ MOI, by Gemologist, b.c., Feb. 19, by Rainbow Heir. New Farm. Mare to Rainbow Heir.

TOPAZIO, by More Than Ready, ch.c., March 26, by Irish War Cry. Thornmar. Mare to Golden Lad.

UNTILTHEREWASYOU, by Big Brown, b.c., March 26, by Force the Pass. Thornmar. Mare to Great Notion.

VIBRANT SPIRIT, by Kitten's Joy, ch.c., Feb. 24, by Force the Pass. Wasabi Ventures Stables LLC, Michael J. Dzik and Greenspring Mares LLC. Mare to Demarchelier (GB).

WALTZING CAT, by More Than Ready, b.f., March 26, by Golden Lad. Timothy Rooney. Mare to Barbados.

## 2021 Yearling Show tentatively set for Aug. 1

The Maryland Horse Breeders Association's 87th annual Yearling Show has been tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 1 at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium.

The show, normally held earlier in the summer, has been pushed back in order to accommodate the Maryland State Fair's schedule, as the facility is serving as a mass Covid-19 testing and vaccination site.

Entries are due Thursday, July 1, with an entry fee of $25 per horse.

Visit marylandthoroughbred.com for forms and to keep up with news and updates.

# Maryland-bred Stakes Winners

Ryan Thompson/Coglianese Photography

## I Get It collects first stakes win in Gulfstream's Sanibel Island

Gary Barber's aptly named I Get It got it in the $100,000 Sanibel Island Stakes at Gulfstream Park March 27, as she went from last to first in a rally down the stretch in the race for 3-year-old fillies.

It was I Get It's first stakes victory, but she'd been competitive in two previous tries. Exactly one month earlier, she made her graded debut in Gulfstream's Grade 3 Herecomesthebride, was bumped and pinched along the rail but re-rallied to be fourth. She was elevated to third after the winner was disqualified and placed behind her.

Sent off the 5-2 second choice in the Sanibel Island, the Ronald Spatz trainee broke from post seven and was the early trailer behind opening fractions of :24.64 and :49.08. I Get It made her move around the final turn as Jose Ortiz hustled her to the outside after 6 furlongs in 1:13.21. She caught the leaders in the final furlong and pulled away to win by a half-length while after a mile on the turf in 1:36.11.

"My plan was to save ground on the first turn and try to keep her clear on the second turn and not get her in trouble," said Ortiz. "I was just waiting for the spot to go. The pace wasn't very hot so I wasn't able to drop in all the way. When I made my move, she responded very good. She has a beautiful turn of foot."

I Get It improved to 5-0-1 from nine starts, while boosting her earnings to $156,278. Barber purchased the filly after the Herecomesthebride.

"I can't even describe it, because I really thought she could have won last time," said Spatz. "If she'd have gotten through the hole or had a better trip, I think she could have won that race. The graded [win] would have meant a

lot for her, and she got graded [placed] anyway, so we're happy with that."

Bought by Spatz for $8,500 as a yearling at the 2019 OBS October sale, the blaze-faced daughter of the equally flashy Get Stormy has raced exclusively on the turf. She debuted last July at Gulfstream and finished fifth in a roughly run 5 furlongs. Two starts later she broke her maiden by 5 lengths at a mile while risked for a $40,000 tag. She followed with back-to-back allowance victories at Gulfstream Park West (the old Calder Race Course)–at a mile in October, and 1 1/16 miles Nov. 28, her final start of the year which included a historic footnote, as it was the final card at the south Florida track after a nearly 50-year run.

I Get It returned Jan. 2 for her 3-year-old debut in Gulfstream Park's Ginger Brew, rallying from last to finish fourth, and two and a half weeks later scored by 3 lengths in a starter for fillies who had raced for a claiming price of $40,000 or less.

"We're real proud of her. We bought her as a yearling, when she was kind of small and weedy-looking. I love Get Stormy, so we took a shot with her. You can't measure their heart when they're young, and she's just got a huge heart," said Spatz.

Bred by Flying H Stables, owned by Kent and Tracy Hersman of Paris, Ky., I Get It–given the nickname "Snapchat" at the farm as a youngster because of her unique facial markings–is the first foal for the General Quarters' mare Twisted Beauty, sent to Maryland to foal at Angie and Sabrina Moore's GreenMount Farm in Glyndon in 2018.

Kent Hersman found and followed Sabrina on Instagram and liked her operation, including sales prep, and contacted her via the social network about sending a mare. "Out of anywhere I've ever boarded out of state, [Sabrina] is the best," said Hersman. ❧

# Maryland Fund Report

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks
January 1 to January 31, 2021

### Geisha Stakes

January 16. Purse $75,000-guaranteed. For 4-year-olds and up, fillies and mares, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 1 mi. 6 competed. (Closed with 12 nominations.) Winner: GALE, by Tonalist. Breeder bonus: Robert S. Evans ($6,187.50). Stallion bonus: None. Second: KISS THE GIRL, by Into Mischief. Breeder bonus: Classic Thoroughbred XII ($2,062.50). Stallion bonus: None Third: COCONUT CAKE, by Bandbox. Breeder bonus: Thornmar Farm LLC ($1,031.25). Stallion bonus: Bandbox Syndicate ($343.50).

### Jennings Handicap

January 16. Purse $75,000-guaranteed. For 4-year-olds and up, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 1 mi. 9 competed. (Closed with 21 nominations.) Winner: TATTOOED, by Etched. Breeder bonus: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Holt, Theodore Montuori and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palumbo ($6,187.50). Stallion bonus: Bonita Farm Stallion Partnership ($2,061). Second: GALERIO, by Jump Start. Breeder bonus: Daniel E. Marconi ($2,062.50). Stallion bonus: None. Third: CORDMAKER, by Curlin. Breeder bonus: Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss ($1,031.25). Stallion bonus: None.

### Breeder bonuses

Linda L. Albert—MIT MAZEL: Jan. 22, 1st race, $4,845.

Alberts Racing LLC—JOHNG: Jan. 16, 1st race, $4,702.50.

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—GENNIE HIGHWAY: Jan. 15, 7th race, $1,155. SOLEA: Jan. 8, 7th race, $2,565; Jan. 29, 6th race, $2,565. ($6,285)

James M. Anderson—APERITIVO: Jan. 17, 1st race, $1,417.50.

Angelinos Racing LLC—MAXIMUS MIDANI: Jan. 1, 3rd race, $4,132.50.

Robert Atkinson and Mary Atkinson—ASHARA: Jan. 10, 4th race, $1,732.50. ORTINOLA: Jan. 30, 9th race, $522.50. ($2,255)

Barak Farm—DEEP RED: Jan. 9, 8th race, $2,362.50; Jan. 29, 7th race, $6,412.50. NINE MARTINIS: Jan. 30, 2nd race, $2,992.50. STROLL SMOKIN: Jan. 24, 8th race, $2,467.50. ($14,235)

David Earl Baxter—WALK IT OUT NANNY: Jan. 17, 3rd race, $945.

William Bayne—BERNIE'S ON FIRE: Jan. 18, 7th race, $962.50.

Patricia Beck and Richard C. Beck—LUDICROUS MODE: Jan. 2, 7th race, $412.50; Jan. 22, 9th race, $787.50. ($1,200)

Best A Luck Farm LLC—MY FRIENDS BEER: Jan. 1, 7th race, $1,292.50.

Best Foot Forward LLC—ALL ABOUT AUDREY: Jan. 8, 7th race, $945.

David Benjamin Bloom—TYREEK: Jan. 8, 1st race, $3,135.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—MY QUEEN MICHELLE: Jan. 17, 7th race, $522.50; Jan. 30, 9th race, $2,707.50. PROPER ATTIRE: Jan. 24, 7th race, $5,985. WORSTBESTIDEAEVER: Jan. 9, 6th race, $495. ($9,710)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman—RAPIDASHQUEEN: Jan. 2, 9th race, $3,135; Jan. 30, 9th race, $997.50. STREET LUTE: Jan. 16, 7th race, $8,250. ($12,382.50)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—CLAIRE'S DARLING: Jan. 1, 2nd race, $742.50. GREAT GO GO: Jan. 18, 3rd race, $522.50. ($1,265)

Bowman and Higgins Stable—CONGRESS HALL: Jan. 18, 6th race, $787.50.

Buckingham Farm—I LOVE YOU: Jan. 30, 2nd race, $1,102.50.

William Andrew Campbell—SEVEN ON THE ROCKS: Jan. 18, 7th race, $1,837.50.

CandyLand Farm—GALILEAN MOON: Jan. 16, 1st race, $1,732.50.

Classic Thoroughbred XII—KISS THE GIRL: Jan. 16, 3rd race, $2,062.50. RUSSELDOINGTHINGS: Jan. 24, 4th race, $1,155. ($3,217.50)

Clover Hill Racing LLC—LADNEEDSAHANDLER: Jan. 23, 5th race, $907.50.

Angela B. Coombs—GOLDEN MOON SHINE: Jan. 3, 9th race, $1,155; Jan. 30, 3rd race, $2,565. ($3,720)

Cordelia Stables LLC—IMAGINE VICTORY: Jan. 2, 9th race, $605; Jan. 23, 6th race, $605; Jan. 29, 3rd race, $945. ($2,155)

Cliff and Mary Cornwell and Country Life Farm—SUPER HOUDINI: Jan. 16, 1st race, $907.50.

Country Life Farm and Curio Broodmare LLC—TARGE: Jan. 29, 8th race, $2,205.

Country Life Farm and Fifteen Moons LLC—MOONSAFE: Jan. 15, 1st race, $907.50.

Country Life Farm and Heather LLC—SWING YOUR SWORD: Jan. 22, 8th race, $1,417.50.

Country Life Farm and Imagistic LLC—MOSLER'S IMAGE: Jan. 9, 1st race, $3,847.50.

Country Life Farm and Lawless Love LLC—BREEZE OFF THE BAY: Jan. 1, 5th race, $2,205; Jan. 16, 7th race, $1,375. ($3,580)

Country Life Farm and Estate of Mildred Wilson—NATTY BEAU: Jan. 1, 1st race, $3,277.50.

Country Roads Ltd.—ODDS ON: Jan. 2, 4th race, $945. UTTERLY ENCHANTING: Jan. 17, 7th race, $997.50. ($1,942.50)

Dark Hollow Farm—SOUTHSIDE WARRIOR: Jan. 10, 5th race, $2,137.50. TOY: Jan. 1, 4th race, $1,837.50. ($3,975)

Dark Hollow Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Davidov—COMBAT QUEEN: Jan. 17, 8th race, $1,155.

Dr. Morgan Dove and Karin Wurttemberger—HALFINTHEWRAPPER: Jan. 2, 2nd race, $1,575.

Dragon's Lair Farm LLC—BAPTIZE THE BOY: Jan. 10, 8th race, $687.50.

The Elkstone Group LLC—HIGHER PURPOSE: Jan. 9, 5th race, $412.50. LIFESPAN: Jan. 24, 9th race, $495. PLOT THE DOTS: Jan. 3, 8th race, $1,237.50; Jan. 23, 8th race, $2,362.50. ROOF TOP BAR: Jan. 18, 4th race, $2,565. THE QUANTICO KID: Jan. 10, 3rd race, $787.50; Jan. 18, 5th race, $2,137.50. USED TO BE FUN: Jan. 10, 9th race, $495. ($10,492.50)

Annette Eubanks and Daniel Eubanks—ROCKINHIPPIECHICK: Jan. 24, 3rd race, $1,155.

Robert S. Evans—GALE: Jan. 16, 3rd race, $6,187.50.

Joan Parker Everett—GIFTED HEART: Jan. 9, 8th race, $6,412.50. REDEEM EDDIE: Jan. 18, 7th race, $4,987.50.

Christopher J. Feifarek—OUR STAR: Jan. 16, 2nd race, $2,137.50.

Finale Farm and Mr. and Mrs. David Moose—HUFFLEPUFF: Jan. 30, 5th race, $1,470.

Finn's Nickel LLC and Anchor and Hope Farm, Inc—EGG NOG: Jan. 1, 2nd race, $1,417.50.

Fitzhugh LLC—LOOKIN DYNAMIC: Jan. 15, 7th race, $5,985. ROYAL NUMBER: Jan. 9, 4th race, $5,985. SHERIFF'S KID: Jan. 17, 9th race, $1,155. ($13,125)

Paul L. Fowler Jr.—IMAGINE HONGKONG: Jan. 8, 5th race, $1,732.50.

Robert J. Gerczak—LITTLE BAY: Jan. 3, 3rd race, $412.50.

Germania Farms Inc.—GALLINELLA: Jan. 9, 2nd race, $3,277.50.

Glenangus Farm LLC—GOOD MEASURE: Jan. 15, 1st race, $4,702.50.

Greenspring Mares LLC—WRITTENBYTHESTARS: Jan. 24, 3rd race, $605.

Tiffany Harrison and Justin Harrison—SAN ANTONE: Jan. 8, 3rd race, $1,575.

Heritage Stallions Inc.—SCARLET TANAGER: Jan. 15, 8th race, $787.50; Jan. 29, 6th race, $945. ($1,732.50)

Hickory Ridge Farm—CAREY TIMES: Jan. 22, 7th race, $2,362.50.

Hillwood Stable LLC—BE GOOD: Jan. 10, 4th race, $4,702.50. BUNTING: Jan. 9, 8th race, $1,237.50; Jan. 29, 7th race, $1,237.50. FRIEND ME CHARLIE: Jan. 23, 7th race, $962.50. HELLO AMIGO: Jan. 9, 7th race, $907.50. HELLO BEAUTIFUL: Jan. 16, 6th race, $8,250. STEELY BAND: Jan. 22, 2nd race, $1,155. ($18,452.50)

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Holt, Theodore Montuori and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Palumbo—TATTOOED: Jan. 16, 5th race, $6,187.50.

Jagger Inc.—APRILNESS: Jan. 3, 9th race, $605.

R. Larry Johnson—BLUE SKY PAINTER: Jan. 2, 6th race, $2,565; Jan. 23, 3rd race, $787.50. DAY THE MUSIC DIED: Jan. 2, 4th race, $2,565; Jan. 30, 4th race, $687.50. KEEPER IN SPITE: Jan. 30, 6th race, $2,137.50. THUNDERINTHEVALLEY: Jan. 8, 7th race, $495; Jan. 23, 2nd race, $945. XMASINTHECITY: Jan. 3, 3rd race, $2,137.50. ($12,320)

Carol A. Kaye—AIR TOKEN: Jan. 29, 4th race, $1,312.50.

Timothy L. Keefe—TRICKY SPIRITS: Jan. 30, 3rd race, $945.

Frankie Kline—MY MY GIRL: Jan. 3, 4th race, $4,702.50.

Joanne P. Krishack—COMMANDING GENERAL: Jan. 30, 1st race, $495.

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—DARE TO PROMISE: Jan. 24, 1st race, $2,100. LADY FOX: Jan. 1, 9th race, $2,565; Jan. 23, 6th race, $3,135. THEDUKE OF HAZZARD: Jan. 22, 3rd race, $632.50. WATCHTHEBOURBON: Jan. 8, 2nd race, $787.50. ($9,220)

Andrea G. Lematta—ICE RAIN: Jan. 29, 1st race, $1,470.

Dr. Frances Berkeley Luther and Berkeley Springs Farm—DISCREET DOMINIQUE: Jan. 10, 4th race, $907.50.

Estate of Robert T. Manfuso—FEATURE ACT: Jan. 2, 7th race, $2,137.50; Jan. 18, 5th race, $412.50. MINE NOT MINE: Jan. 1, 4th race, $962.50. ($3,512.50)

Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss—CORDMAKER: Jan. 16, 5th race, $1,031.25. MCELMORE AVENUE: Jan. 3, 6th race, $5,985. ($7,016.25)

Marathon Farm Inc.—ABUELO PAPS: Jan. 8, 6th race, $1,155; Jan. 24, 4th race, $2,205. CLOSER LOOK: Jan. 23, 8th race, $1,237.50. ROCKIN RON: Jan. 23, 3rd race, $412.50. ($5,010)

## Maryland-bred top earners in 2021

(through April 1)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Knicks Go | $3,240,000 | |
| 2. | Street Lute | 130,000 | |
| 3. | Pete's Play Call | 113,000 | |
| 4. | Tattooed | 95,000 | |
| 5. | I Get It | 92,678 | |
| 6. | Shackled Love | 82,932 | |
| 7. | Cordmaker | 77,500 | |
| 8. | Chasin Munny | 76,800 | |
| 9. | Postnup | 72,600 | |
| 10. | Excellorator | 71,372 | |
| 11. | Hello Beautiful | 67,500 | |
| 12. | Paisley Singing | 62,655 | |
| 13. | Proper Attire | 62,244 | |
| 14. | Kiss the Girl | 60,000 | |
| 15. | Plot the Dots | 55,065 | |
| 16. | Galerio | 55,000 | |
| | Hello Hot Rod | 55,000 | |
| 18. | Lookin Dynamic | 53,472 | |
| 19. | Hammerin Aamer | 53,275 | |
| 20. | Aloha West | 52,350 | |


Maryland Horse Breeders Association

**Business Member Spotlight**

# Erskine & Associates

Equine Veterinary Practice

Dr. Erskine and his associates provide complete ambulatory service for horses in central Maryland including Howard and Montgomery Counties, as well as much of Carroll and Frederick Counties. We also provide out-patient services (by appointment only) in our clinic, which is conveniently located in Mt. Airy, Maryland. Together with Dr. Suzanne Welker and intern Dr. Kaela Schraer, Dr. Erskine is committed to the health and well-being of your horse.

*Learn more about our offered services at*

**ErskineDVM.com**



**Membership inquiries?**
**Member benefits questions?**

**Call the MHBA office 410.252.2100**


Daniel E. Marconi—GALERIO: Jan. 16, 5th race, $2,062.50.

MOM Stable—WHAT THE FLASH: Jan. 22, 8th race, $742.50.

Kevin P. Morgan—MR. CHESAPEAKECITY: Jan. 17, 5th race, $787.50.

Audrey R. Murray—PAY THE KID: Jan. 15, 5th race, $945. WOWWHATABRAT: Jan. 16, 2nd race, $787.50. ($1,732.50)

Leo Nechamkin and Dennis Jankiewicz—BALTIMORE BUD: Jan. 8, 1st race, $1,155.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau—FACTORINTHEHEAT: Jan. 30, 5th race, $3,990.

Avla R. Pitts—ALWAYSMINING: Jan. 30, 8th race, $6,697.50.

R.D.M. Racing Stable—WHATS THE CHANCES: Jan. 3, 3rd race, $787.50.

Darci Rice—HAD THE NOTION: Jan. 24, 2nd race, $632.50.

Carolyn Rainbow, Samuel H. Rogers and Susan R. Parks—IN CLASS: Jan. 3, 1st race, $412.50.

Timothy J. Rooney—PROMENADE PRINCESS: Jan. 8, 4th race, $3,135. WONDERWALL: Jan. 8, 8th race, $5,985. ($9,120)

Alexandro Rubim-Dias—AWARD WANTED: Jan. 8, 4th race, $1,155.

Sagamore Farm LLC—RYE STREET: Jan. 1, 9th race, $495. START WITH YES: Jan. 10, 3rd race, $412.50. YOUNGEST OF FIVE: Jan. 1, 4th race, $4,987.50. ($5,895)

Shamrock Farm—RAN CHAR: Jan. 8, 4th race, $605. SUE LOVES BARBADOS: Jan. 8, 5th race, $4,702.50; Jan. 23, 4th race, $2,205. ($7,512.50)

Skeedattle Associates—HOT CHOICE: Jan. 29, 6th race, $495.

Smith Farm and Stable—EL ROJO: Jan. 8, 2nd race, $412.50; Jan. 22, 6th race, $787.50. ($1,200)

Bob G. Sowder—GOLDIE'S BOY: Jan. 15, 9th race, $945.

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—GIRLS LOVE ME: Jan. 29, 4th race, $3,562.50. PAISLEY SINGING: Jan. 2, 2nd race, $4,275; Jan. 23, 7th race, $4,987.50. RUBBER BAND: Jan. 17, 1st race, $3,847.50. ($16,672.50)

Thomas L. Teal—CHARGINA: Jan. 3, 4th race, $1,732.50.

Thornmar Farm LLC—COCONUT CAKE: Jan. 16, 3rd race, $1,031.25. GOLDEN WARRIOR: Jan. 22, 8th race, $3,847.50. GOSH: Jan. 29, 5th race, $605. NOBODY KNEW: Jan. 30, 7th race, $1,155. ($5,607.50)

Thornmar Farm and Colleen Torsney—KEEPYOURSKATESON: Jan. 3, 4th race, $907.50; Jan. 18, 2nd race, $1,417.50. ($2,325)

University of Maryland—FEARLESS LASSIE: Jan. 9, 1st race, $1,417.50.

Walter N. Vieser II—FRANCIS X.: Jan. 23, 5th race, $1,732.50. ITALIAN DRESSING: Jan. 1, 2nd race, $3,847.50; Jan. 22, 1st race, $935. ($6,515)

Winners Circle Partners VIII—GOLAZO: Jan. 3, 7th race, $3,135.

Mrs. Frank P. Wright—SARAH'S TREASURE: Jan. 23, 7th race, $1,837.50.

Lana Wright—SICK PACK SARA: Jan. 24, 3rd race, $3,135.

ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable—SHACKLED LOVE: Jan. 9, 4th race, $2,205; Jan. 30, 7th race, $2,205. ($4,410)

### Stallion bonuses

BALTIMORE BOB (Baltimore Bud: Jan. 8, 1st race, $384.85. Johng: Jan. 16, 1st race, $1,566.87. Little Bay: Jan. 3, 3rd race, $137.45): Robert Gerczak—$2,089.17.

BANDBOX (Baptize the Boy: Jan. 10, 8th race, $229.08. Be Good: Jan. 10, 4th race, $1,566.87. Bunting: Jan. 9, 8th race, $412.34; Jan. 29, 7th race, $412.34. Coconut Cake: Jan. 16, 3rd race, $343.50. Friend Me Charlie: Jan. 23, 7th race, $320.71. Hello Amigo: Jan. 9, 7th race, $302.38. In Class: Jan. 3, 1st race, $137.45. Rubber Band: Jan. 17, 1st race, $1,281.99. Steely Band: Jan. 22, 2nd race, $384.85): Bandbox Syndicate—$5,391.51.

BARBADOS (Sue Loves Barbados: Jan. 8, 5th race, $1,566.87; Jan. 23, 4th race, $734.71): Shamrock Farm—$2,301.58.

BOURBON COURAGE (Egg Nog: Jan. 1, 2nd race, $472.31. San Antone: Jan. 8, 3rd race, $524.79. Theduke of Hazzard: Jan. 22, 3rd race, $210.75. Tricky Spirits: Jan. 30, 3rd race, $314.87. Watchthebourbon: Jan. 8, 2nd race, $262.40. What the Flash: Jan. 22, 8th race, $247.40. Worstbestideaever: Jan. 9, 6th race, $164.93): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—$2,197.45.

BUFFUM (Commanding General: Jan. 30, 1st race, $164.93): Buffum Syndicate.

DESPITE THE ODDS (Keeper in Spite: Jan. 30, 6th race, $712.22. Mr. Chesapeakecity: Jan. 17, 5th race, $262.40. Odds On: Jan. 2, 4th race, $314.87. Scarlet Tanager: Jan. 15, 8th race, $262.40; Jan. 29, 6th race, $314.87. Utterly Enchanting: Jan. 17, 7th race, $332.37. Whats the Chances: Jan. 3, 3rd race, $262.40): R. Larry Johnson—$2,461.53.

ETCHED (Tattooed: Jan. 16, 5th race, $2,061): Bonita Farm Stallion Partnership.

FREEDOM CHILD (Mit Mazel: Jan. 22, 1st race, $1,614.35): Freedom Child Syndicate.

FRIESAN FIRE (Bernie's On Fire: Jan. 18, 7th race, $320.71. Discreet Dominique: Jan. 10, 4th race, $302.38. Gallinella: Jan. 9, 2nd race, $1,092.06. Hot Choice: Jan. 29, 6th race, $164.93): Friesan Fire Syndicate—$1,880.08.

GOLDEN LAD (Air Token: Jan. 29, 4th race, $437.33. All About Audrey: Jan. 8, 7th race, $314.87. Golden Moon Shine: Jan. 3, 9th race, $384.85; Jan. 30, 3rd race, $854.66. Golden Warrior: Jan. 22, 8th race, $1,281.99. Hello Beautiful: Jan. 16, 6th race, $2,748. Ladneedsahandler: Jan. 23, 5th race, $302.38. Mine Not Mine: Jan. 1, 4th race, $320.71. Paisley Singing: Jan. 2, 2nd race, $1,424.43; Jan. 23, 7th race, $1,661.84. Russeldoingthings: Jan. 24, 4th race, $384.85. Sick Pack Sara: Jan. 24, 3rd race, $1,044.58): Golden Lad Syndicate—$11,160.49.

GREAT NOTION (Francis X.: Jan. 23, 5th race, $577.27. Great Go Go: Jan. 18, 3rd race, $174.10. Had the Notion: Jan. 24, 2nd race, $210.75. Halfinthewrapper: Jan. 2, 2nd race, $524.79. Italian Dressing: Jan. 1, 2nd race, $1,281.99; Jan. 22, 1st race, $311.54): Great Notion Syndicate—$3,080.44.

HANGOVER KID (Pay the Kid: Jan. 15, 5th race, $314.87): Hangover Kid Syndicate.

IMAGINING (Claire's Darling: Jan. 1, 2nd race, $247.40. Imagine Hongkong: Jan. 8, 5th race, $577.27. Imagine Victory: Jan. 2, 9th race, $201.59; Jan. 23, 6th race, $201.59; Jan. 29, 3rd race, $314.87. Lady Fox: Jan. 1, 9th race, $854.66; Jan. 23, 6th race, $1,044.58. Proper Attire: Jan. 24, 7th race, $1,994.20): Imagining Syndicate—$5,436.16.

LOUIS QUATORZE (Wowwhatabrat: Jan. 16, 2nd race, $262.40): Louis Quatorze Syndicate.

MOSLER (Moonsafe: Jan. 15, 1st race, $302.38. Mosler's Image: Jan. 9, 1st race, $1,281.99. Natty Beau: Jan. 1, 1st race, $1,092.06): Country Life Farm, Adele Dilschneider and Seth Hancock—$2,676.43.

NICANOR (Ran Char: Jan. 8, 4th race, $201.59): Nicanor Syndicate.

ORIENTATE (Gosh: Jan. 29, 5th race, $201.59): Orientate Syndicate.

REDEEMED (Redeem Eddie: Jan. 18, 7th race, $1,661.84): Redeemed Syndicate.

ROCK SLIDE (Seven On the Rocks: Jan. 18, 7th race, $612.26): Shamrock Farms.

SEVILLE (GER) (Gennie Highway: Jan. 15, 7th race, $384.85. Goldie's Boy: Jan. 15, 9th race, $314.87. I Love You: Jan. 30, 2nd race, $367.35. Solea: Jan. 8, 7th race, $854.66; Jan. 29, 6th race, $854.66. Tyreek: Jan. 8, 1st race, $1,044.58): Seville Syndicate—$3,820.97.

STREET MAGICIAN (Street Lute: Jan. 16, 7th race, $2,748): R. Larry Johnson.

SUPER NINETY NINE (Gifted Heart: Jan. 9, 8th race, $2,136.65. Nine Martinis: Jan. 30, 2nd race, $997.10. Ortinola: Jan. 30, 9th race, $174.10. Super Houdini: Jan. 16, 1st race, $302.38. Walk It Out Nanny: Jan. 17, 3rd race, $314.87): Country Life Farm—$3,925.10.

TRITAP (Rapidashqueen: Jan. 2, 9th race, $1,044.58; Jan. 30, 9th race, $332.37): Tritap Syndicate—$1,376.95.

THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

# Post Time

- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - **May 2021** -

## *In This Issue*

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### Officers

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# The Rutgers Equine Center Horse Management Seminar

The Rutgers Equine Science Center completed their annual Horse Management Seminar and for the first time the seminar was moved to a virtual format. The seminars may be viewed at the Equine Science Center website at https://esc.rutgers.edu/resources/library/multimedia.

The three days of virtual seminars and their topics are below and provide valuable information to horse owners.

The "Equine Health" Session brings together Michael Fugaro, VMM, dACVS and Lynsey Makkreel, DVM to discuss some of the different aspects of equine health, both in relation to the horse, as well as within the equine veterinary community.

Dr. Fugaro of Mountain Pointe Equine presents "Economical Veterinary Care" and covers recent increases in veterinary care costs, that status of the veterinary care community, and the importance of planning ahead and insurance for equine emergencies.

Dr. Makkreel of Foundation Equine presents "Tips for Keeping Your Horse Sound" and covers the importance of establishing a solid relationship with your equine professionals (vet/farrier/trainer) as they will be your best resource for keeping your horse sound; the importance of understanding basic trimming/shoeing principles and utilizing resources to get it right; and the importance of principles in equine saddle fit, fitness, and footing.

The "Equine Behavior & Training" Session brings together Sara Malone, Ph.D.; Ph.D. Candidate Ellen Rankins; and Angelo Telatin, Ph.D. to discuss some of the different aspects of behavior and training.

Dr. Malone and Ph.D. Candidate Rankins from Rutgers University present "Evaluating Horse Welfare" and discuss animal welfare and how it applies to performance horses, re-evaluating common horse management techniques to maximize equine welfare, and current topics that may impact the social license of holding horse events.

Dr. Telatin from Delaware Valley University presents "Using Learning Theory to Train Horses," discussing timing of rewards as the most important factor with training, the importance of repetition (and how to change things up if results aren't being observed), and the importance of not stressing the horse.

The "Equine Nutrition" Session brings together Burt Staniar, Ph.D. and Krishona Martinson, Ph.D. to discuss some of the importance of fiber.

Dr. Staniar from the Pennsylvania State University presents "Fiber and Its Importance to Horses" and discusses the importance of dietary fiber, how to define fiber (the difference between the Krishna chemical and physical definition and how this effects how you feed your horse), and the optimal inclusion of dietary fiber depending on your specific horse.

Dr. Martinson from the University of Minnesota presents "Forage/Pasture Practical Research You Can Use" and explores the different types of forages (e.g. warm-season grasses, cool-season grasses, legumes) and how

FOLLOW or LIKE **NJBREDS** on.

they have different amounts of fiber components, how to use these unique characteristics to help choose forages best suited for your horse, and the connection between forage maturity and digestibility.

# 2021 New Jersey-Bred Stakes Schedule

| Race Date | Race Name | Age/Sex | Distance | Surface |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5/31/2021 | $75,000 Spruce Fir Handicap | F&M 3+ | Six Furlongs | Dirt |
| 6/27/2021 | $75,000 Smart N Classy Handicap | F&M 3+ | One Mile | Dirt |
| 7/4/2021 | $75,000 John J. Reilly Handicap | 3+ | Six Furlongs | Dirt |
| 7/18/2021 | $75,000 Jersey Girl Handicap | F&M 3+ | One Mile | Turf |
| 7/24/2021 | $75,000 Irish War Cry Handicap | 3+ | One Mile | Turf |
| 8/29/2021 | $100,000 Charles Hesse III Handicap | 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | Dirt |
| 8/29/2021 | $100,000 New Jersey Breeders' Handicap | 3+ | Six Furlongs | Dirt |
| 8/29/2021 | $100,000 Eleven North Handicap | F&M 3+ | Six Furlongs | Dirt |
| 9/18/2021 | $75,000 Pinot Grigio Handicap | F&M 3+ | Five Furlongs | Turf |
| 9/19/2021 | $75,000 Joey P. Handicap | 3+ | Five Furlongs | Turf |

# Monmouth Park 2021 Stakes Schedule

| *Race Date* | *Race Name* | *Age/Sex* | *Distance* | *Surface* | *Closing Date* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5/28 | $100,000 Jersey Derby | 3YO | One Mile | Turf | 5/14 |
| 5/29 | $100,000 Mr. Prospector Stakes | 3+ | Six Furlongs | | 5/14 |
| 5/30 | $75,000 Politely Stake | F&M 3+ | Five Furlongs | Turf | 5/14 |
| 5/31 | $75,000 Spruce Fir Handicap (NJB) | F&M 3+ | Six Furlongs | | 5/14 |
| 6/5 | $150,000 G3 Monmouth Stakes | 3+ | One Mile and One Eigth | Turf | 5/21 |
| 6/6 | $100,000 Lady's Secret Stakes | F&M 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | | 5/21 |

# Monmouth Park 2021 Stakes Schedule *continued*

| *Race Date* | *Race Name* | *Age/Sex* | *Distance* | *Surface* | *Closing Date* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6/12 | $150,000 G3 Salvator Mile | 3+ | One Mile | | 5/28 |
| 6/13 | $150,000 TVG.com Pegasus Stakes | 3YO | One Mile and One Sixteenth | | 5/28 |
| 6/19 | $75,000 Get Serious Stakes | 3+ | Five Furlongs | Turf | 6/4 |
| 6/20 | $150,000 G3 Eatontown Stakes | F&M 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | Turf | 6/4 |
| 6/26 | $75,000 Boiling Springs Stakes | 3YO Fillies | One Mile and One Sixteenth | Turf | 6/11 |
| 6/27 | $75,000 Smart N Classy Handicap (NJB) | F&M 3+ | One Mile | | 6/11 |
| 7/3 | $75,000 Regret Stakes | F&M 3+ | Six Furlongs | | 6/18 |
| 7/4 | $75,000 John J. Reilly Handicap (NJB) | 3+ | Six Furlongs | | 6/18 |
| 7/10 | $75,000 Blue Sparkler Stakes | 3YO Fillies | Five and a Half Furlongs | Turf | 6/25 |
| 7/11 | $75,000 My Frenchman Stakes | 3YO | Half and a Half Furlongs | Turf | 6/25 |
| 7/17 | $1,000,000 G1 TVG.com Haskell Stakes | 3YO | One Mile and One Eighth | | 6/25 |
| 7/17 | $500,000 G1 United Nations Stakes | 3+ | One Mile and Three Eighths | Turf | 6/25 |
| 7/17 | $300,000 G3 Monmouth Cup | 3+ | One Mile and One Eighth | | 7/2 |
| 7/17 | $250,000 G3 Molly Pitcher Stakes | F&M 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | | 7/2 |
| 7/17 | $150,000 G3 WinStar Matchmaker Stakes | 3+/F&M | One Mile and One Eighth | Turf | 7/2 |
| 7/17 | $75,000 Wolf Hill Stakes | 3+ | Five and One Half Furlongs | Turf | 7/2 |
| 7/18 | $75,000 Jersey Girl Handicap (NJB) | F&M 3+ | One Mile | Turf | 7/2 |
| 7/24 | $75,000 Irish War Cry Handicap (NJB) | 3+ | One Mile | Turf | 7/9 |
| 7/25 | $75,000 Tale of the Cat Stakes | 3YO | One Mile and One Sixteenth | Turf | 7/9 |
| 7/31 | $200,000 G3 Monmouth Oaks | 3YO Fillies | One Mile and One Sixteenth | | 7/16 |
| 8/1 | $75,000 Colleen Stakes | 2YO Fillies | Five Furlongs | Turf | 7/16 |
| 8/7 | $75,000 Tyro Stakes | 2YO | Five Furlongs | Turf | 7/23 |
| 8/8 | $100,000 Oceanport Centennial Stakes | 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | Turf | 7/23 |
| 8/14 | $75,000 Incredible Revenge Stakes | F&M 3+ | Five and One Half Furlongs | Turf | 7/30 |
| 8/15 | $75,000 Jersey Shore Stakes | 3YO | Six Furlongs | | 7/30 |
| 8/21 | $200,000 G3 Philip H. Iselin Stakes | 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | | 8/6 |
| 8/22 | $75,000 Rainbow Heir Stakes | 3+ | Five and One Half Furlongs | Turf | 8/6 |
| 8/28 | $100,000 Miss Liberty Stakes | F&M 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | Turf | 8/13 |
| 8/29 | $100,000 Charless Hesse III Handicap (NJB) | 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | | 8/13 |
| 8/29 | $100,000 New Jersey Breeders' Handicap (NJB) | 3+ | Six Furlongs | | 8/13 |
| 8/29 | $100,000 Eleven North Handicap (NJB) | F&M 3+ | Six Furlongs | | 8/13 |
| 9/4 | $100,000 Red Bank Stakes | 3+ | One Mile | Turf | 8/20 |
| 9/5 | $100,000 Sapling Stakes | 2YO | One Mile | | 8/20 |
| 9/6 | $100,000 Sorority Stakes | 2YO Fillies | One Mile | | 8/20 |
| 9/11 | $75,000 Rumson Stakes | 3+ | Five Furlongs | | 8/27 |
| 9/12 | $75,000 Precious Passion Stakes | 3+ | One Mile and One Half | Turf | 8/27 |
| 9/18 | $75,000 Pinot Grigio Handicap (NJB) | F&M 3+ | Five Furlongs | Turf | 9/3 |
| 9/19 | $75,000 Joey P. Handicap (NJB) | 3+ | Five Furlongs | Turf | 9/3 |
| 9/25 | $100,000 Violet Stakes | F&M 3+ | One Mile and One Sixteenth | Turf | 9/10 |
| 9/26 | $75,000 Smoke Glacken Stakes | 2YO | Six Furlongs | | 9/10 |

*THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY*

## *Membership Application*

### Member Information

NAME _____ SS#/FEDERAL I.D.# _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

### Membership Categories

☐ Breeder — A breeder member shall be a person who owns the required interest in a broodmare or registered stallion domiciled in New Jersey; who submits an application for membership, and pays the membership dues. A breeder member shall have voting rights.

☐ Owner — An owner member shall be a person who owns a registered New Jersey- bred; who submits an application for membership, and pays the membership dues. An owner member will not have voting rights.

☐ Associate — An associate member is a person who is interested in owning, breeding, or racing horses in the State of New Jersey or in fostering economic activity through the breeding, ownership and/or racing of horses in the State of New Jersey. An associate member will not have voting rights.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

### Membership Dues

A check or money order for $65.00 must accompany this form. Spouses are encouraged to join the **TBANJ** under joint membership status. This fee would total $100.00 per couple. Each spouse must fill out a separate form to accompany the payment. Membership will be effective upon receipt and will be in force each calendar year and must be renewed annually.

**THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY**
**265 Hwy 36**
**Suite 1R**
**W. Long Branch, NJ 07764**
**(732) 542-8880 Fax: (732) 542-8881**
**email: njbreds@gmail.com**

# North Carolina

THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

May 2021


## President's message

Congratulations go to Nancy, Dan and Beth for their wins. For all the members who had a horse running, good job. I was looking forward to watching and cheering on a member's horse making her debut at Laurel Park March 26. Unfortunately, Laurel canceled their races on that day and for the next week. Ugh, that's racing.

Member Michael Stone is excited to be back in the game again. He recently purchased two mares, one for breeding and the other to continue her racing career. Michael's tremendous passion for the game wouldn't let him stay away for long. Good luck, Michael.

As always, I thank you for your support of the North Carolina Thoroughbred Association. Our small organization is still around due to you.

*/Rebecca Montaldo*


North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

(910) 261-7595

www.ncthoroughbred.com

ncthoroughbred@gmail.com

P.O. Box 76, Fayetteville, NC 28302



Rebecca Montaldo, *president*

Jimmy Teal, *treasurer*

*Directors:*

Elizabeth Houck

Vince Mathews

Chris Stiller


## Racing Recaps

Honorifique wins for her breeder Nancy Shuford. *SV photography*

**Honorifique** (Honor Code out of Doubled, by Exchange Rate) won at Tampa Bay Downs March 7 for her breeder, Nancy Shuford. The 3-year-old filly ran a mile and 40 yards on a fast track in 1:41.60. Honorifique stalked the pace early on the inside, gained ground running on the rail through the far turn, drew even with the

Bank On Shea wins by a nose for his owner, Dan Shea – Shea D Boy's Stable. *Coglianese Photography*

front runner in the upper stretch and edged ahead in the final furlongs under a drive.

**Bank On Shea** (Central Banker out to Miss Moultree, by Uncle Mo) won at Aqueduct March 19 for his owner, Dan Shea – Shea D Boy's Stable. The 4-year-old colt ran 7 furlongs on a good track in 1:26.58. He took the lead early, running on the inside. At the five-sixteenths, he came under coaxing, and moved slightly off the rail when turning for home. A battle ensued down the stretch. But he dug in and was put under a drive to win by a nose at the wire.

**Double Tough Tiger** (Tourist out of She'sa Tough Tiger, by Tiger Ridge) won at Fair Grounds March 18 for his breeder Beth Muirhead. The 3-year-old colt broke his maiden in the off-the-turf test going 1 mile, 70 yards, on a fast track in 1:44.26. Despite being bumped after the start, Double Tough Tiger took the lead down the backstretch and continue to be the front runner to the wire, winning by 1¼ lengths.

# Hitting the Board February 25–March 24

| Date | Horse | Track | NCTA Connection | Result |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 26-Feb | Miss Grandstander | Charles Town | Bred & owned by Clint Lowry | 3rd |
| 27-Feb | Proud Mandate | Laurel Park | Bred by Nancy Shuford | 3rd |
| 2-Mar | Saints Marching In | Mahoning Valley | Bred by Nancy Shuford | 2nd |
| 7-Mar | Honorifique | Tampa Bay Downs | Bred by Nancy Shuford | **WINNER!** |
| 18-Mar | Double Tough Tiger | Fair Grounds | Bred by Beth Muirhead | **WINNER!** |
| 19-Mar | Bank On Shea | Aqueduct | Owned by Dan & Christy Shea - Shea D Boys Stables | **WINNER!** |

NORTH CAROLINA
THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

YOUR NAME OR FARM NAME_____

**HORSES IN TRAINING - 2021**

Please list the horses you have BRED or OWN that are in training or racing. The Association will put them into our stable on Daily Racing Form. We will keep up with them thru this medium and have news for the association and for the Mid-Atlantic. We will only use horses that finish in the money.

I hope this will allows us to know what our members are doing on the racing front and keep everyone informed about your successes.

The breeding I will still have to trust you to keep us informed. I love receiving news on how the horses are doing and who you are breeding to, and how you did at the sales. I do know it is hard to find the time to sit down and send me this information, BUT PLEASE TRY.

**Please take the time to fill this out for your racing stock. Please list all horses even the ones I already have so I can keep our stable updated. Use another page if need more room.**

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ Bred/Own/Both ☐☐☐

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

HORSE'S NAME_____DAM_____DOB____ ☐☐☐

Mail to: Rebecca Montaldo
NCTA
P O Box 76
Fayetteville, NC 28302

Or send via Email at:
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North Carolina Thoroughbred Association

2021 MEMBERSHP FORM

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Involvement in Thoroughbred Industry
(Please check any or all pertaining to you)

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PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **N.C.T.A.**
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**Thank you for your support.**

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

PA Thoroughbred NEWSLETTER

May 2021
pabred.com

## PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:** Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:** Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:** Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:** Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

## VISIT PABRED.COM

- **Racing and breeding news**
- **PA-Bred entries/results**
- **Rules, regulations, forms**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# PHBA strengthens commitment to aftercare and supports SAFE Act

by Linda Dougherty

Continuing to demonstrate its commitment to the health and welfare of Thoroughbreds, the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association (PHBA) announced in late March its endorsement of the John Stringer Rainey Safeguard American Food Exports (SAFE) Act.

The SAFE Act, named for the late South Carolina philanthropist and former director of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, is legislation that would permanently end the slaughter of American horses for human consumption in the United States and abroad.

It also amends Title 18 of the U. S. Code by making it illegal to "possess, ship, transport, purchase, sell, deliver, or receive … any horse with the intent that it is to be slaughtered for human consumption," with penalties that include fines and imprisonment.

Introduced in 2019 by Sens. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., and Susan Collins, R-Maine, the SAFE Act has also garnered the endorsement of several prominent animal welfare groups. The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) and the Humane Society of the United States are among those supporting its passage.

Other prominent groups that have endorsed the SAFE Act include the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, United States Trotting Association, and Maryland Horse Council.

"Our bipartisan legislation will help put an end to the cruel and inhumane slaughter of horses while protecting families from toxic horse meat and safeguarding the reputation of the U.S. food industry worldwide," said Sen. Menendez when the bill was introduced.

In addition to its commitment to the health and safety of Thoroughbreds, aftercare is also a top priority of the PHBA, according to president Greg Newell.

"We are doing everything we can to help place horses who reach the end of their first or second career, whether they have finished racing or breeding," said Newell. "Our Anti-Slaughter Committee, chaired by Kate Goldenberg, has done a wonderful job addressing what can be done to help our equine athletes."

PHBA Board member Hank Nothhaft, also a member of the Anti-Slaughter Committee, said that endorsement of the SAFE Act was something the organization wanted to do to be a positive force towards improving the industry. The fact that many unwanted Thoroughbred broodmares are

## SAFE Act *continued from page 1*

found in slaughter pens proved to be a call to action.

"There was unanimous support from the PHBA Board to mitigate the slaughter of broodmares," said Nothhaft. "Older broodmares, especially, are not attractive candidates for equestrian activities, and thus they are not as easy to rehome as younger horses. This has really pushed us from sitting on the bench towards getting into the fray."

"The Anti-Slaughter Committee was formed in order to protect our broodmares, stallions, and Pennsylvania-bred racehorses that end up in the slaughter pipeline, or in bad situations," explained Jennifer Poorman of the PHBA. "What is coming from it is so much more."

Poorman said that the Committee has a goal to create a broodmare retirement program to address the need of unwanted mares.

"Our hope is to form a non-profit within our organization, to assist our breeders when the time comes when their broodmare can no longer breed," said Poorman. "We'll be looking to build a network of partner farms willing to assist with retirement from breeding, whether it's a second career or permanent retirement due to physical limitations.

"We're also creating a campaign to educate our breeders about responsible aftercare, along with providing a network of resources for our breeders to turn to at any point they find themselves in need of assistance," she said.

"No one has been looking out for the broodmares," said Nothhaft. "There's lots of enthusiasm for this project moving forward."

Nothhaft said one reason why the SAFE Act hasn't gained traction towards passage since 2019 in Congress is because large agricultural interests fear that anti-slaughter legislation would bring undue attention to their industries, which involve large-scale slaughter of animals for food.

"The SAFE Act is one of three items we are working on," said Brian Sanfratello, executive secretary of the PHBA. "The others are Pennsylvania-specific anti-slaughter legislation, similar to the SAFE Act, that would make it a misdemeanor for anyone who causes or transports a horse into the slaughter pipeline, as well as a PHBA code of ethics, with sanctions for anyone who is a member or registers horses with our organization and is found to be in violation of the Pennsylvania anti-slaughter measures."

The PHBA's relationship with legislators in Harrisburg could have a positive impact towards the introduction and passage of a Pennsylvania anti-slaughter bill, said Nothhaft.

For additional information, contact Brian Sanfratello at 610-444-1050, or email at brians@pabred.com. Visit the PHBA's web site at www.pabred.com.

## A few words from the Executive Secretary

I would first like to thank the many legislators that have given us their total support since the Governor's budget proposal. They have said they will stand behind us and not allow this to happen. Please keep in contact with your Senators and Representatives as we are winning this fight.

We're happy to announce that our 2021 PA-Bred Stakes Schedule is out! We're back in full force this year with 20 $100,000 stakes at all three PA tracks.

The PHBA Annual Meeting will be held in person at the Kennett Square Country Club on Wednesday, May 12 at 4 p.m. Our annual awards banquet honoring the champions of 2020 will be held on Friday, May 23. This year's celebration will again be held via Zoom, hopefully for the last time. Look for invitations to both, coming your way via email soon.

Don't miss out on the best breeding program in the country. If you haven't sent your mares, don't delay. A maiden breeder award for PA-Sired PA-Breds is a whopping 50%, and 40% for all other races. Non PA-Sired awards are 25% and 20% respectively.

PA foals of 2021 have started to arrive! Share your photos to our Facebook and Twitter accounts, and via email with lineage, foaling date and location to be included in the 2021 Foal Gallery on the website. Email photos and information to pabreeder@gmail.com.

As always, if you have any questions about our program or if you're interested in joining the Thoroughbred breeding industry in Pennsylvania, please call our office at 610.444.1050.

# 2021 PENNSYLVANIA-BRED STAKES SCHEDULE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **TUESDAY, APRIL 27**<br>**PARX RACING** | **$100,000 PAGE MCKENNEY HANDICAP**<br>3 & up, 7 furlongs | **$100,000 UNIQUE BELLA STAKES**<br>3 & up, fillies & mares, 7 furlongs |
| **FRIDAY, MAY 28**<br>**PENN NATIONAL** | **$100,000 LYPHARD STAKES**<br>3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 1/16 miles, turf | **$100,000 WITH ANTICIPATION STAKES**<br>3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, turf |
| **TUESDAY, JUNE 22**<br>**PARX RACING** | **$100,000 CROWD PLEASER STAKES**<br>3YO, 1 1/16 miles, turf | **$100,000 POWER BY FAR STAKES**<br>3 & up, fillies & mares, 5 furlongs, turf |
| **MONDAY, JULY 19**<br>**PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS** | **$100,000 MALVERN ROSE STAKES**<br>3YO fillies, 6½ furlongs | |
| **MONDAY, JULY 26**<br>**PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS** | **$100,000 PRINCESS OF SYLMAR STAKES**<br>3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 mile 70 yards | |
| **TUESDAY, JULY 27**<br>**PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS** | **$100,000 HARD SPUN STAKES**<br>3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards | |
| **PENNSYLVANIA'S DAY AT THE RACES**<br><br>**MONDAY, AUGUST 23**<br>**PARX RACING** | **$100,000 BANJO PICKER SPRINT STAKES**<br>3 & up, 6 furlongs<br><br>**$100,000 MRS. PENNY STAKES**<br>3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 1/16 miles, turf | **$100,000 MARSHALL JENNEY HANDICAP**<br>3 & up, 5 furlongs, turf<br><br>**$100,000 STORM CAT STAKES**<br>3 & up, 1 1/16 miles |
| | **$100,000 DR. TERESA GAROFALO MEMORIAL STAKES**<br>3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 furlongs | |
| **MONDAY, SEPT. 13**<br>**PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS** | **$100,000 FINEST CITY STAKES**<br>2YO fillies, 6 furlongs | **$100,000 MARK MCDERMOTT STAKES**<br>2YO, 6 furlongs |
| **SATURDAY, SEPT. 25**<br>**PARX RACING** | **$100,000 ALPHABET SOUP HANDICAP**<br>3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, turf | **$100,000 PLUM PRETTY STAKES**<br>3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 1/16 miles |
| **FRIDAY, NOV. 26**<br>**PENN NATIONAL** | **$100,000 SHAMROCK ROSE STAKES**<br>2YO fillies, 6 furlongs | |
| **TUESDAY, DEC. 7**<br>**PARX RACING** | **$100,000 PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY STAKES**<br>2YO, 7 furlongs | |

# PA-Bred Fund Statistics: Top Earners

January 1 through December 31, 2020

## LEADING EARNERS - TOTAL AWARDS

| Breeder Name | Breeder | Stallion | Total | Breeder Name | Breeder | Stallion | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 0 | 306,970 | 306,970 | Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC | 66,707 | 14,813 | 81,521 |
| Glenn E. Brok LLC | 149,268 | 76,869 | 226,137 | Flint W. Stites | 61,728 | 12,262 | 73,990 |
| William J. Solomon VMD | 120,310 | 83,841 | 204,151 | Mary R. Szeyller | 73,513 | 0 | 73,513 |
| Blackstone Farm LLC | 171,522 | 0 | 171,522 | Richard N. Miller | 57,584 | 11,642 | 69,226 |
| Fantasy Lane Stable Inc. | 116,804 | 39,031 | 155,835 | Cavanaugh Breen Farm LLC | 65,135 | 0 | 65,135 |
| Pewter Stable | 112,071 | 22,650 | 134,720 | Ashwell Stables Inc. | 62,499 | 0 | 62,499 |
| Sylmar Farm Inc. | 131,816 | 0 | 131,816 | Wendy H. Mutnick | 61,250 | 0 | 61,250 |
| Patricia L. Chapman | 81,080 | 32,033 | 113,113 | Shirley A. Lojeski | 60,222 | 0 | 60,222 |
| Arrowwood Farm Inc. | 108,227 | 0 | 108,227 | Godstone Farm LP | 32,389 | 25,209 | 57,598 |
| Thomas G. McClay | 106,711 | 0 | 106,711 | Barlar LLC | 48,222 | 9,024 | 57,247 |
| Wyn Oaks Farm LLC | 59,783 | 45,713 | 105,495 | Yaroslaw Kolybabiuk MD | 56,254 | 0 | 56,254 |
| Donald L. Brown Jr. | 74,439 | 15,525 | 89,963 | W M T Stables Inc. | 55,481 | 0 | 55,481 |

## LEADING STALLIONS

Fund Money includes Stallion Awards only

| Stallion Name | Stallion Owner / Manager | No. of Races | Award Total | Stallion Name | Stallion Owner / Manager | No. of Races | Award Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jump Start | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 523 | 172,796 | Partner's Hero | Peter Giangiulio | 64 | 17,288 |
| El Padrino | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 207 | 86,779 | Uncle Lino | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 25 | 16,894 |
| Talent Search | Glenn E. Brok LLC | 157 | 58,521 | Messner | Donald L. Brown Jr. | 17 | 15,525 |
| Uptowncharlybrown | Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC | 114 | 53,844 | Rimrod | George Strawbridge Jr. | 44 | 14,683 |
| Weigelia | Wyn Oaks Farm LLC | 190 | 45,713 | Emperor Tiberius | Richard N. Miller | 39 | 13,334 |
| Albert the Great | William J. Solomon VMD | 128 | 33,350 | Peace and Justice | Steven W. Young Racing LLC | 17 | 13,241 |
| Smarty Jones | Patricia L. Chapman | 137 | 32,033 | Reflect Times | Flint W. Stites | 32 | 12,262 |
| Well Spelled | Godstone Farm LP | 89 | 22,941 | Petionville | Everest Stables Inc. | 36 | 10,585 |
| Winchill | Pewter Stable | 35 | 20,578 | Il Villano | Chuck Russo | 29 | 9,846 |
| Mad Flatter | Glenn E. Brok LLC | 84 | 20,027 | Last Gunfighter | William J. Solomon VMD | 41 | 9,597 |
| Any Given Saturday | William J. Solomon VMD | 86 | 19,755 | Wiseman's Ferry | Lainey Bug Stables LLC | 15 | 9,302 |
| Medallist | Northview Stallion Station Inc. | 40 | 17,802 | E Dubai | Barlar LLC | 34 | 8,704 |

## LEADING HORSES

Fund Money includes: PA-Bred Races, Breeder and Stallion Awards and PA-Bred Owner-Bonus Payments

| Horse | Pedigree | Breeder | Races | Restricted | Stakes | Breeder Award | Stallion Award | Owner Bonus | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wait for It * | Uptowncharlybrown - Kimberley Diamond | Fantasy Lane Stable Inc. | 4 | 0 | 91,200 | 67,664 | 16,916 | 15,760 | 191,540 |
| Its a Journey * | Jump Start - Lovely Senorita | Mary R. Szeyller | 3 | 0 | 44,400 | 41,240 | 10,310 | 13,600 | 109,550 |
| Fire's Finale * | Jump Start - Exchanging Fire | Kenwood Racing LLC | 2 | 0 | 43,800 | 38,700 | 8,835 | 9,600 | 100,935 |
| Final Shot * | Talent Search - Last Shot | Wendy H. Mutnick | 8 | 0 | 7,900 | 48,700 | 12,175 | 18,764 | 87,539 |
| Pink Caddy * | El Padrino - Avani Force | Vicky Schowe | 2 | 0 | 46,800 | 31,800 | 7,950 | 0 | 86,550 |
| Caravel | Mizzen Mast - Zeezee Zoomzoom | Elizabeth M. Merryman | 4 | 0 | 47,400 | 27,150 | 0 | 3,252 | 77,802 |
| Midtowncharlybrown * | Uptowncharlybrown - Torchwood | Godric LLC | 2 | 0 | 47,400 | 23,700 | 5,925 | 0 | 77,025 |
| Admiral Abe | Midshipman - Precious Penny | James Walker | 10 | 0 | 7,400 | 26,806 | 0 | 35,272 | 69,478 |
| Plane Drunk | Stay Thirsty - Annette's Jet | Triple Threat Stables LLC | 2 | 0 | 47,400 | 16,980 | 0 | 0 | 64,380 |
| Dreamer's Moon | Alternation - Dream Realized | Blackstone Farm LLC | 8 | 0 | 0 | 28,986 | 0 | 34,380 | 63,366 |
| Madam Meena | Include - Good Tidings | Michael R. Cox | 11 | 0 | 8,690 | 31,700 | 0 | 22,760 | 63,150 |
| Isabella Smile * | El Padrino - Smilestone | Joseph Besecker | 9 | 0 | 0 | 29,915 | 7,479 | 21,368 | 58,762 |
| Promised Storm * | El Padrino - Innovative | Cavanaugh Breen Farm LLC | 6 | 0 | 0 | 36,432 | 9,108 | 11,280 | 56,820 |
| Koan | Zensational - Tease | Eq. Biomechanics & Ex. Phys. Inc. | 8 | 0 | 0 | 22,747 | 0 | 32,496 | 55,243 |
| Brilliant Chase | Golden Lad - Fix You | Matthew T. Groff | 9 | 0 | 0 | 28,571 | 0 | 25,020 | 53,591 |
| The Critical Way | Tizway - Critical Factor | Blackstone Farm LLC | 1 | 0 | 44,400 | 8,880 | 0 | 0 | 53,280 |
| Geebert * | Albert the Great - Gee Pari | Richard Molineaux | 8 | 0 | 0 | 28,336 | 6,580 | 16,800 | 51,716 |
| Wise Jude * | Wiseman's Ferry - Sweet as You Are | A & J Racing Stable LLC | 6 | 0 | 0 | 29,288 | 7,322 | 14,720 | 51,330 |
| Love On Fire | Friesan Fire - Love Has Foundaway | Thomas Finacchio | 11 | 0 | 0 | 20,558 | 0 | 29,368 | 49,926 |
| Cinnabunny | Golden Lad - English Mum | Shooting Star Stable | 5 | 0 | 0 | 26,768 | 0 | 22,640 | 49,408 |
| Ruby Bleu * | Messner - Ruby Soul | Donald L. Brown Jr. | 7 | 0 | 0 | 24,741 | 6,185 | 17,672 | 48,598 |
| Late Breaking News * | Jump Start - Very Distinctive | Stacy McMullin Machiz | 7 | 0 | 0 | 28,450 | 7,113 | 12,076 | 47,639 |
| Irish Cork | Flat Out - Circustown Rose | Two-Turn Farm LLC | 7 | 0 | 0 | 22,039 | 0 | 25,484 | 47,523 |
| Mess'n Around * | Messner - She Is a Lioness | Donald L. Brown Jr. | 2 | 0 | 0 | 23,856 | 5,964 | 17,040 | 46,860 |

*Denotes PA-sired

# Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

Winter 2021

## Parx Around the Ovals

Three-year-old gelding *Harper's First Ride* (*Paynter* out of *Polyester*, by *Tiz Wonderful*) won the Native Dancer Stakes with **Angel Cruz** for trainer **Robertino Diodoro** and owner **GMP Stables**, December 26th, 2020, giving the Parx connections a second win for the day at Laurel Park.

Three-year-old filly *Laobanonaprayer* (*Laoban* out of *Raffie's Choice*, by *Raffie's Majesty*) was just up for second in the final jumps, chasing winner *Secret Love* in the $100,000 Franklin Square Stakes at Aqueduct with jockey **Kendrick Carmouche**. *Laobanonaprayer* ran 6 1/2 furlongs on a muddy track, January 16th, 2021, for owner and trainer **Daniel Velazquez.**

Share The Ride (Candy Ride out of Belle Of The Hall, by Graeme Hall) fought in a stretch run duel losing by a neck against a late drive by Wendell Fog in the last jumps of the $100,000 Fire Plug Stakes. Share the Ride ran 6 furlongs with jockey Jevian Toledo for trainer Antonio Arriaga and owner Silvino Ramirez, January 16th, 2021.

Trainer Juan Carlos Guerrero and owner Ten Strike Racing came back with two fourth place finishes with their mares: Lucky Move and Portal Creek. Lucky Move (Lookin at Lucy out of Quiet Mover, by Quiet American) was ridden by jockey **Jorge Vargas Jr.** in the $100,000 Ladies Handicap. Portal Creek (Shanghai Bobby out of Silent Stream, by Tricky Creek) was ridden by jockey **Kendrick Carmouche** in the $100,000 Interborough Stakes, January 18th, 2021, at Aqueduct.

*Capo Kane* ran a good race in the $250,000 Grade 3 Withers Stakes at Aqueduct, February 6th, 2021. *Capo Kane* (*Street Sense* out of *Twirl Me*, by *Hard Spun*) ran 1 mile 1/8th with jockey **Dylan Davis** after seizing the lead from the start for trainer **Harold Wyner** and owners **Bing Cherry Racing & Leonard Liberto**, finishing a close third against the winner *Risk Taking.*

Two horses from Parx Racing ran against Godolphin's winning Lake Avenue in the Heavenly Prize Invitational Stakes at Aqueduct, March 6th, 2021. Both ran 1 mile on a fast track. *Portal Creek* was contested on both sides at the 1/4 pole, holding on to second with jockey **Jorge Vargas Jr.** for trainer **Juan Carlos Guerrero** owner **Ten Strike Racing**. *Flashndynamite* (*Flash Storm* out of *Dynamite Jewel*, by *Badge*) finished third with jockey **Dylan Davis** for trainer **Michael M. Moore** and owner **Kasey K Racing Stable.**

LET'S GO RACING TV SHOW

Join our hosts Dani Gibson and Dick Jerardi for the latest in Thoroughbred news, behind the scenes access, and more every **Saturday at 10am on PHL-17!**

# PTHA Winter Trophy Race Winners

| Date | Horse | Jockey | Trainer | Owner |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1-6-21 | Mr. Doda | Navin Mangalee | Carlos Soto | Perez Stables LLC. |
| 1-13-21 | Lula's Roadrunner | Anthony Salgado | Ed Coletti Jr. | Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC. |
| 1-21-21 | Lucky Olivia Rose | Gerardo Milan | Mario Dominiguez | The Hakim's Stable LLC. |
| 1-27-21 | Jump Shot | Silvestre Gonzalez | Haleem Ricardo Lee | Lee Stables |
| 2-10-21 | Beren | Frankie Pennington | Butch Reid, Jr. | St. Omer's Farm & Christopher Feifarek |
| 2-17-21 | Big City Ralph | Dexter Haddock | Alexander Martinez | Araceli Lopez |
| 2-24-21 | Exogen | Mychel Sanchez | Miguel Penaloza | Nauticat Racing |
| 3-3-21 | Catch My Vibe | Jamie Rodriguez | Ney Pessanha | HPI Stable |
| 3-10-21 | Truly A Moon Shot | Jamie Rodriguez | Joe Taylor | Ho Dee Boys Stable |
| 3-17-21 | Anginetti | Angel Castillo | Richard Vega | Steve Appel & Vega Racing Stable, LLC |
| 3-24-21 | Refi | Jeremy Laprida | Robert Mosco | Reddam Racing LLC. |
| 3-31-21 | Bahama Breeze | Abner Adorno | William J. Hogan | William J. Hogan |

# PTHA Peaks @ parx racing

*Petulant Delight* (*First Dude* out of *Shining Moment,* by *Yes It's True*) dueled it out with *Castle Casanova* and achieved his third win in a row during the 8th race on Tuesday, January 5th, 2021 with jockey **Dexter Haddock** for trainer **Mario A. Dominiguez** and owner **The Hakim's Stable LLC.**

Jockey **Mychel Sanchez** won the 2nd and 3rd race of the day, then scored a riding hat trick after winning the 5th race on Wednesday, January 13th aboard *Polpis* (*Orb* out of *Falconess*, by *Forest Wildcat*), going 1 mile 70 yards for trainer **Guadalupe Preciado** and owners **Bloom Racing Stable LLC** and **Madaket Stables LLC**.

Bay colt *Shooger Ray Too* (*Wicked Strong* out of *Caftan*, by *Awesome Again*) surged late and won the 5th race on Tuesday, January 19th, after ducking in at the start with jockey **Anthony Salgado**, for trainer **Tyler Servis** and owner **Vintage Thoroughbreds LLC.**

*Salt Plage* (*Quality Road* out of *French Satin*, by *French Deputy*) was the dominant winner in the 8th race on Monday, January 25th, running past the leaders after a wide swing at the quarter pole for trainer **Linda Rice** and owner/breeder **Alpha Delta Stables,** giving jockey **Angel Castillo** an incredible 4th win of the day.

Jockey **Frankie Pennington** rides *Boston Light* (*Bernardini* out of *Harbor Mist*, by *Rockport Harbor*) to the 1 mile victory on February 10th, for trainer **Jamie Ness** and owners **Morris Kernan, Yo Berbs Racing**, and **Jagger Inc.**, edging away in the final stretch after settling behind the dueling leaders

*Arch Cat* (*Arch* out of *Miss Lavinia*, by *Speightstown*) achieved his 15th lifetime win during the Allowance Race on Tuesday, February 23rd, with jockey **Abner Adorno** for trainer **Danny Velazquez** and owner **Burns Thoroughbred Racing LLC.**

The first of 3 wins for trainer **Robert Mosco** on March 16th were won by *Hold My Call* (*Hold Me Back* out of *Bugel Call*, by *Lemon Drop Kid*) with jockey **Silvestre Gonzalez** during the 5th race for owner **Richard Ciavardone**, moving out into the stretch just up in a long drive.

*Sheer Flattery* (*Flatter* out of *Venus Rosewater*, by *Grand Slam*) won the 9th race on Wednesday, March 17th, for trainer **Lou Linder, Jr.** and owner **Over the Moon Racing Stable LLC**, giving jockey **Ruben Silvera** an incredible 4 wins on the card and a riding grand slam.

**Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association**

Mailing: P.O. Box 300, Bensalem, PA 19020

Office: 215-638-2012 Fax: 215-638-2919 Web: www.patha.org

Hours: Mon - Fri, 8 am - 4 pm. Sat - Sun Closed

# South Carolina

## Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER MAY 2021


## Racing Across the Nation

Jus Lively carried the banner for South Carolina this month. He was the sole South Carolina training center graduate to win a stakes race between Feb. 22 and March 22.

Jus Lively, who went through the breaking and early training process at Kip Elser's Kirkwood Stables operation in Camden, captured the Dixie Poker Ace Stakes at Fair Grounds Feb. 27. This 5-year-old son of Paddy O'Prado had only two of nine beat early on being over 6 lengths off the pace. Jus Lively came five-wide into the stretch, and in a determined effort, he caught the leader inside the eighth-pole and crossed the finish line a half length in front.

The win was his sixth in 12 career starts, to go with three seconds and a third while earning $221,500. He is owned by his breeder, Pine Knoll Farm, and trained by Hall of Famer Steve Asmussen.


### SCTOBA Board Of Directors:

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Marsha Hewitt
Ted Hoover
Dean Keller
Wilhelmina McEwan
Mary Quarles
Rich Scelfo
Franklin G. (Goree) Smith
Madelon Wallace


## Elser and Layden sell at March OBS

Kip Elser and James Layden were active selling horses at the March Ocala Breeders' Two-Year-Olds in Training Sale held on March 16-17. Elser, a longtime SCTOBA Board member, sold four colts—one, by Violence, brought $550,000. The others were sons of Lord Nelson, Blame and Empire Maker.

James Layden sold a colt and two fillies. Two brought six figures. A filly by Uncle Lino commanded a final bid of $200,000 and a Malibu Moon colt sold for $120,000. Layden also sold a filly by Wicked Strong.

## Saving Horses, Saving Lives, A Celebration

In March and April, The Aiken Thoroughbred Racing Hall of Fame conducted an exhibit celebrating the horses of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation, its history in South Carolina and the bright future for the program. For nearly 10 years the TRF has cared for more than 75 horses living in South Carolina, including those at our TRF Second Chances Program at the Wateree River Correctional Institution.

## Carolina Cup will be held May 22

The Carolina Cup refuses to be defeated by the Covid-19 pandemic. While being held at a later date than in past years, the 86th annual Carolina Cup Races will take place at Springdale Race Course in Camden on Saturday, May 22.

The National Steeplechase Association condition book lists five races scheduled to be run on the flat or over hurdles. The feature race of the day is the $30,000 Carolina Cup.

**SCTOBA member Lee Christian's 2024 Kentucky Derby colt by Midnight Storm out of Mis Vizcaya born Feb. 6.**

# SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

| *Horse* | *Training Center* | *Date* | *Track* | *Type of Race* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Silent Malice | Webb Carroll Training Center | 3/21/21 | Laurel Park | Allowance |
| Gold Finch | Aiken - Cary Frommer | 3/21/21 | Laurel Park | Waiver Maiden |
| Foggy Dreams | Elloree Training Center | 3/21/21 | Laurel Park | Allowance |
| Moonachie | Webb Carroll Training Center | 3/20/21 | Aqueduct | Allowance |
| Doubleoseven | Aiken - Cary Frommer | 3/20/21 | Laurel Park | Allowance |
| Rookery | Elloree Training Center | 3/20/21 | Fair Grounds | Maiden Special Weight |
| Unbridledadventure | Custom Care - D. Freyer | 3/17/21 | Parx Racing | Allowance |
| Angry American | Webb Carroll Training Center | 3/17/21 | Parx Racing | Maiden Special Weight |
| Wudda U Think | Custom Care - D. Freyer | 3/14/21 | Aqueduct | Allowance |
| Dream Big Dreams | Aiken - Cary Frommer | 3/14/21 | Laurel Park | Maiden Special Weight |
| Much Class | Aiken - Cary Frommer | 3/12/21 | Fair Grounds | Allowance |
| Mucho Macho Momma | Webb Carroll Training Center | 3/11/21 | Fair Grounds | Maiden Special Weight |
| Smart Set | Wes Carter | 3/10/21 | Turf Paradise | Allowance |
| Known Quantity | Rentz Farm | 3/10/21 | Penn National | Allowance |
| Forest Fire | Rentz Farm | 3/8/21 | Parx Racing | Allowance |
| Rock On Luck | Rentz Farm | 3/8/21 | Parx Racing | Allowance |
| Fole's Notion | Rentz Farm | 3/6/21 | Laurel Park | Waiver Maiden |
| Take Me Home | Custom Care - D. Freyer | 3/5/21 | Charles Town | Allowance |
| Al Rhythm | Webb Carroll Training Center | 3/5/21 | Turf Paradise | Allowance |
| Valued Nation | Aiken - Cary Frommer | 3/5/21 | Laurel Park | Allowance |
| Miss Mosaic | Webb Carroll Training Center | 3/4/21 | Turfway Park | Allowance |
| Bess | Elloree Training Center | 3/3/21 | Penn National | Starter Allowance |
| Beren | Rentz Farm | 3/3/21 | Parx Racing | Allowance |
| Iknowicandance | Rentz Farm | 3/2/21 | Parx Racing | Starter Allowance |
| Midnight Obsession | Rentz Farm | 3/2/21 | Parx Racing | Maiden Special Weight |
| Double Doink | Rentz Farm | 3/1/21 | Parx Racing | Waiver Claiming |
| Silent Malice | Webb Carroll Training Center | 2/28/21 | Laurel Park | Allowance |
| JUS LIVELY | Kirkwood Stables | 2/27/21 | Fair Grounds | Dixie Poker Ace S |
| Attachment Rate | Elloree Training Center | 2/27/21 | Gulfstream Park | Allowance |
| One Last Trial | Custom Care - D. Freyer | 2/26/21 | Laurel Park | Allowance |
| Plot the Dots | Custom Care - D. Freyer | 2/25/21 | Laurel Park | Allowance |
| Market Maven | Rentz Farm | 2/23/21 | Parx Racing | Allowance |
| Tony Small | Elloree Training Center | 2/21/21 | Tampa Bay | Starter Allowance |

# VIRGINIA

## Virginia Racing Makes Big Splash At Dubai World Cup Program

Virginia HBPA President David Ross's Extravagant Kid, who reached million dollar earning status in February, captured the Grade 1 Al Quoz Sprint Stakes March 27 at Meydan Racecourse. The $1 million stakes was part of a stellar under card for the $12 million Dubai World Cup which was won by Mystic Guide, conditioned by Colonial Downs' leading trainer Michael Stidham.

Extravagant Kid, who was making his 50th career start, earned his 15th career win and pushed his bankroll over $1.5 million. It marked the first time a U.S. horse won the Al Quoz, which is a straight race at six turf furlongs. It was also Extravagant Kid's first Grade/Group I stakes win in three tries.

"It was something else, I'll tell you that," said Ross of the experience of attending and winning the Al Quoz. "It was a 13-hour flight and the trip of a lifetime. It was a spectacle. It was a world class event and a world class operation put on by the Dubai Racing Club."

Ross claimed the 8-year-old Kiss The Kid gelding three years ago for $75,000. "He was an expensive purchase but he had been running on dirt and showed good class on turf. I loved his back form. He can do a bunch of things. He loves to sprint."

After finishing a solid fourth in the 2020 Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint, Extravagant Kid had a trio of runner-up finishes in the Janus, Sunshine Sprint and Colonel Power stakes to kick off 2021. The first was on turf and the latter two were on dirt.

"He's great over both surfaces," noted Ross, who credits trainer Brendan Walsh for figuring the horse out and keeping him challenged. "We sent him to compete at Fair Grounds in New Orleans from his base at Gulfstream six weeks before Dubai, just to mix things up a bit and to challenge him. I can't say enough about Brendan," he added. "It's great to have a trainer that understands the race. On draw day for the Al Quoz, he said we wanted to draw right in the middle of the field, and we ended up drawing post eight of 14, right where he had hoped."

Ross, who is Colonial's all-time leading owner, employs both Walsh and Stidham as his two main trainers. Stidham has been the leading trainer at Colonial Downs the last two years and will have a string in New Kent again this summer.

"To see Michael win the Dubai World Cup just enhanced the whole experience," said Ross. "I couldn't have written a better story. It doesn't get better than that."

"What an exciting day for Colonial Downs racing to be represented with one of our leading trainers, Michael Stidham, capturing the Dubai World Cup and leading owner and VHBPA President David Ross winning with Extravagant Kid in the Al Quoz Sprint," said Jill Byrne, Colonial's VP of Racing Operations. "It was so great to see such strong supporters of the Virginia racing industry represented with these much-deserved victories and how it further showcases the quality of racing at Colonial Downs."

## Important Updates for the Virginia-Certified Residency Program

1. As of 4/1/2021, when a registered Virginia-Certified horse wins an eligible race in the Mid-Atlantic region (NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, WV & VA) the Virginia-Certified bonus will be paid to the person or entity that owned the horse when it made its first start, from now on referred to as the "Developer".

Previously the person or entity that owned the registered Virginia-Certified horse at the time it won an eligible race in the Mid-Atlantic region received the bonus award. Starting 4/1/2021, the "Developer" will receive the bonus award when the registered Virginia-Certified horse wins an eligible race in the Mid-Atlantic region, even if the Developer no longer owns the horse at the time of the win. (As was true in the past, bonuses are not paid for wins in Virginia Restricted races). As a result of this change, if a registered Virginia-Certified horse is sold or claimed, any Virginia-Certified bonus the horse earns on or after 4/1/2021 will be paid to the "Developer" rather than to any subsequent owner of the horse. The "Developer" will receive the bonus regardless of whether the subsequent owner acquired the horse before, on, or after 4/1/2021.

2. As of 4/1/2021, when a registered Virginia-Certified horse wins a restricted West Virginia state-bred race of any kind, the Virginia-Certified bonus will be calculated as 10% of the lesser of (i) the winner's purse share published on the Equibase chart or (ii) 60% of the published purse on the overnight.

Previously the Virginia-Certified bonus for a win in restricted West Virginia state-bred races of any kind was 25%; starting April 1, 2021 it will be 10%. This reduction affects only Virginia-Certified horses running in restricted West Virginia state-bred races. If a registered Virginia-Certified horse—including a West Virginia state-bred horse--wins an open race in West Virginia, it will continue to earn a 25% Virginia-Certified bonus.

If you have any questions concerning these changes, please contact Debbie Easter at 434-977-3716 or debbie.easter@easterassociates.com.

## Spring Point-to-Point Season Winds Down In Virginia; Two Sanctioned Steeplechase Meets Set For May

Virginia's spring Point-to-Point steeplechase/flat season is winding down and just one more meet remains --- the Middleburg Hunt Point-to-Point at Glenwood Park on Sunday May 9. To date, the Loudoun, Blue Ridge, Old Dominion, Piedmont and Warrenton Hunt meets have been contested. Warrenton actually hosted two meets at the Airlie Racecourse to keep the schedule in tact.

The Old Dominion meet at the Ben Venue Farm saw offspring of four past Virginia Derby champions reach the winners circle. Riendo is by '04 champ Kitten's Joy, Ritzy A.P. is by '05 champ English Channel, Gostisbehere is by '08 champ Gio Ponti and Go As You Please, who also won a jump race at Colonial Downs last summer, is by '10 champ Paddy O'Prado. The 2021 Virginia Derby is slated for Tuesday August 31 in New Kent and tickets are on sale at colonialdowns.com.

A pair of NSA sanctioned steeplechase meets are on tap in May. The Middleburg Spring Races will be held May 1, also at Glenwood Park, and the Virginia Gold Cup Races will take place at Great Meadow on May 29. Both were delayed from their originally scheduled dates to allow for limited spectators. Steeplechase racing will continue in New Kent on Mondays this summer during the thoroughbred meet. Two jump races will be held before the pari-mutuel card begins at 1:45 PM.

PHOTO CAPTIONS:
First Page -Extravagant Kid wins the 2019 Da Hoss Stakes at Colonial Downs. Photo by Coady Photography.
Top Right - Brian Cullinane directs Ritzy A.P. to victory in the Novice Rider Flat at the Old Dominion Point-to-Point. Photo by Douglas Lees.


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**For more information on the Virginia Breeders Fund or Virginia Stakes Program, please contact the VTA.**

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Virginia Breeders Fund

West Virginia
THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter May 2021

# West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association Awards–2020

The drive to be successful is a personality attribute that stimulates us to overcome physical adversity, risk financial calamity and examine the boundaries of rational tolerance. As a group, horsemen, particularly breeders, seem to comprehensively possess this DNA trait. Prolonged days and sleepless nights are accepted as a trade off in the pursuit of excellence. This year, the WVTBA consulted with other associations and on recommendations made sweeping changes in administrative policies and judging criteria, hoping to avert the appearance of partisanship.

Due to the continuing saga of the Coronovirus, masks and temperature checks were the backstretch norm, but even with pandemic restrictions exceptional equine performances prevailed.

### WEST VIRGINIA HORSE OF THE YEAR AND 3-YEAR-OLD FILLY OF THE YEAR: STAR OF NIGHT

Under the guidance of trainer Jeff Runco, Star of Night has become a local racing sensation and, as her name implies, campaigns exclusively under the Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races virtuoso lights.

Chauvinists may take exception to a 3-year-old filly winning the title of Horse of the Year, but under new voting guidelines Star of Night justifiably earned her lofty status. The multiple stakes winner has won at a carousel of distances from 6½ furlongs to 1⅛ miles.

**2020 WV Horse of the Year Star of Night** Coady Photography

Save for one narrow defeat to her gifted older rival Bridging the Gap, Star of Night would have recorded an unblemished record in 2020. She won the Sylvia Bishop Memorial, West Virginia Tourism Office Breeders Classic and My Sister Pearl Stakes in a lightly-raced campaign of seven starts that saw her on the track from January to December.

This filly's potential appears to be unlimited for owner Huntertown Farm and breeder Heinz Steinmann. Only time will tell if the daughter of Creative Cause and the Malibu Moon mare Splendiferous Moon is a transcendent talent able to sustain her seismic gender gap displacement.

### TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLY OF THE YEAR: SHUTUPN'KISSME

With five starts in 2020, the bay daughter of Fiber Sonde—Kiss On Command, by Langfuhr, could best be described in a single word–efficient. Winner of the Eleanor Casey Memorial in front-running fashion, she was also runner-up in the Rachel's Turn Stakes and West Virginia Triple Crown Nutrition Breeders Classic. Those races resulted in a 50/50 split with her arch-rival That Kenney Kid.

Owned, bred and trained by John McKee, Shutupn'kissme helped her sire once again dominant local racing's newsworthiness.

### TWO-YEAR-OLD COLT/ GELDING OF THE YEAR: YOUTHINKTHATSFUNNY

A combination of speed and strength, this youngster was a unanimous choice in his division by way of commanding scores in the West Virginia Vincent Moscarelli Memorial Breeders Classic and West

Virginia Futurity. Never worse than third in five races, the son of Fiber Sonde out of Humored, by Distorted Humor, was also second-best in the Henry Mercer Memorial to the highly-regarded Hopping Henry.

The talented winner of over $103,000 is the property of John McKee, who also fortuitously trains and bred the gray/roan gelding.

### *THREE-YEAR-OLD COLT/GELDING OF THE YEAR: FANCY CONCHO*

In recent years Grams Racing Stable has been blessed to take to the field of battle with title-holders Runnin'toluvya, Moonlit Song and Loving Touch. So it was no surprise when Fancy Concho strolled home in the West Virginia Lottery Breeders Classic, virtually assuring his coronation in the 3-year-old male division and continuing the mosaic for success for the husband and wife team.

The son of Fiber Sonde—Shes Pretty Fancy, by My Boy Adam, was a model of consistency (five wins, four seconds in nine starts in 2020) and a testament to the Grams handcrafted program of breeding-nurturing-racing.

### *OLDER FILLY/MARE OF THE YEAR: ANNA'S BANDIT*

After Anna's Bandit's banner year in 2019, it wasn't inconceivable that a mild letdown was realistic for the daughter of Great Notion. With only four starts, the 6-year-old mare owned by No Guts No Glory Farm still managed to do enough to warrant her name atop the female leader board. In her first graded stakes attempt she finished third in the Grade 3 Barbara Fritchie Stakes at Laurel, and after a dominating win in the Original Gold Stakes, where she left the likes of Bridging the Gap, Grace Elizabeth and B's Wild Cork in her wake, plus a controversial half-length loss in the Geisha Stakes at Laurel Park and a third in Delaware Park's Dashing Beauty Stakes she confirmed she still governs as West Virginia's premier distaff runner.

Trained and bred by John Robb out of Onearmedbandit, by No Armistice, Anna's Bandit has bankrolled $782,655 in an illustrious 36-start career.

### *OLDER COLT/GELDING OF THE YEAR: DR. FEELGOOD*

Easily one of the most debatable categories in this year's balloting discussion. When final results were tabulated, the swayback son of Fiber Sond, out of Happy Numbers, by Polish Numbers, prevailed by a narrow margin over Penguin Power and Runnin'toluvya.

Bred by Francis Daniel III and owned by Jill Daniel, the master of the one-turn dash at Charles Town holds the staggering distinction of never tasting defeat sprinting 4½ furlongs. Dr. Feelgood recorded wins in the It's Only Money Stakes, and West Virginia Dash for Cash on Breeders Classics night, while going 5-for-5 on the year.

The beloved 'Panda' as referred to by barn employees was superbly handled by trainer Crystal Pickett.

### *WEST VIRGINIA-SIRED HORSE OF THE YEAR: BRIDGING THE GAP*

This was a new category added in hopes of rewarding horses that compete on a consistent basis in West Virginia, but were previously omitted due to being foaled or raised in a different locale. In 11 starts at 4, the daughter of Fiber Sonde finished first or second nine times. Commencing in August, she undeniably ingrained the attributes inherent to her sire, reeling off four consecutive wins which included the Sadie Hawkins Stakes and West Virginia Cavada Breeders Classic.

Owned and trained by John McKee, the gray/roan mare out of Seetsang, by Fusaichi Pegasus, was bred in Kentucky by Don Cain.

### *BROODMARE OF THE YEAR: HAPPY NUMBERS*

### *SIRE OF THE YEAR: FIBER SONDE*

### *BREEDER OF THE YEAR: BEAU RIDGE FARM (JOHN & CYNDY MCKEE)*

## Benefits of Owning a WV-Bred and/or -Sired racehorse

***Some of the best incentives in the nation:***

- A minimum of three accredited races are written every day at Charles Town exclusively for registered WV-bred and/or -sired horses.
- West Virginia has the only program in the country that permits horses to win state-bred races that do not count against the horse's lifetime open conditions.
- The WV Thoroughbred Development Fund distributes almost $5 million to breeders, owners, and sire owners of accredited WV-bred and/or -sired horses based the horse's annual earnings at Charles Town and Mountaineer Park racetracks.
- The West Virginia Breeders Classics pays out almost $1 million in purses for WV-bred and/or -sired horses. It is held annually on the second Saturday in October.
- $800,000 in purses are allocated for up to 16 WV accredited stakes races during the year.
- Supplemental Purse Awards of up to 10% of the winner's share of the purse to the owner, breeder, and/or sire owner of the accredited WV-bred and/or -sired winner.
- West Virginia offers year-round racing with approximately 300 race days per year.


**West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association**

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# A timeless love story

## Love of land, love of horses, love of family, love of sharing her considerable knowledge, energy and resources: Remembering longtime Radnor Hunt Races chair Betty Moran

*By Betsy Burke Parker*

This year's Radnor Hunt Races won't be the same without longtime event supporter Betty Moran. Moran died Jan. 23, a few months shy of her 90th birthday and of the 90th anniversary of her beloved, hometown Malvern, Pennsylvania meet which also celebrates 90 years on May 15.

Part of the fabric of the historic event, Moran was for so long so tightly tied to the steeplechase hosted by one of the nation's oldest hunt clubs that it's hard to mention one without the other.

"If ever a definition of a philanthropist is needed, just describe Betty Moran," Thoroughbred Charities of America founder Herb Moelis said about Moran in a Main Line Today article. She was an integral part of the Radnor races, Moelis said, and so many other things in Pennsylvania's thoroughbred community.

Forty years ago, Moran boldly stepped up to breathy life into the flagging Radnor races, tying the event to the local Brandywine Conservancy, increasing purses to attract a better class of horses, bolstering volunteer rolls and, because of it, pulling in bigger and bigger crowds which brought in more money and, because of it, increased the scope of Radnor's annual rite of spring.

**Trainer D.M. Smithwick accepts the trophy for a new race at the Radnor Hunt Races, The Morris Dixon Steeplechase, from Molly Dixon and Betty Moran on May 17, 1986. Mrs. Ogden Phipps' Rockaround won the $12,500 brush race with Jerry Fishback up..** *NSA Archives photo*

That sort of confidence was pure Moran, say her many friends. If something needed doing, they say, she was the one to call.

Moran's devotion to philanthropy was regionally renowned. A founding member of the Chester County Community Foundation, Moran received the Jordan Award for Philanthropy in 2000. She served on the boards of the Devon Horse Show, Bryn Clovis Charity Foundation, Paoli Hospital, Community Volunteers in Medicine, Operation Warm, Home of the Sparrow for homeless mothers and the Chester County Food Bank. In 2009, she was honored by the Salvation Army for her tireless service, and she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Of her work with the Chester County Futures charity, Moran summed up her involvement to the Philadelphia Inquirer. "When women are supported, it benefits families. There are so many families who need a warm home, love, care and attention."

### Foxhunting, steeplechasing – Both were important to the Moran clan

Moran was a longtime foxhunter – she and her kids used to hack to Radnor meets, like a row of ducklings following the mother duck. She first entered steeplechasing with Chester County neighbor-trainers Morris "Pop" Dixon and, later, Burley Cocks. Moran and her Brushwood Stable rose to the top of the game both in jumps and on the flat: Brushwood produced 1985 Belmont Stakes winner Creme Fraiche, 1986 Pennsylvania Hunt Cup winner

Tom Miller, 2000 English Grand National winner Papillon and two dozen other stakes winners.

Moran bought Creme Fraiche as a yearling at Fasig-Tipton July. Trained by Hall of Famer Woody Stevens, he won the 1985 Belmont and 17 of 64 starts for $4,024,727.

Creme Fraiche's Belmont victory, the fourth of five straight for Stephens, was achieved over Stephens-trained Stephan's Odyssey and 2-year-old champion Chief's Crown. Moran told the Blood-Horse that she "was spoiled too quickly, too soon by that amount of success (early in her flat racing foray.

"I was speechless when he won."

Creme Fraiche won consecutive runnings of the grade 1 Jockey Club Gold Cup and the grade 1 Super Derby, American Derby, Meadowlands Cup Handicap and Jerome Handicap.

Retired at 7, Creme Fraiche lived to 21, regularly visited by fans bringing his favorite treat of mints until he was put down in 2003. He was buried at the farm in the handsome memorial garden at Bryn Clovis across from Brushwood.

Moran and Brushwood are credited with more than 600 runners on the flat and over fences and nearly $6 million in earnings.

## History of the Radnor Hunt Races

The first Radnor Hunt Races were held in 1928 at the Chesterbrook estate of A.J. Cassatt. Racing was suspended 1943-1945 during World War II. In 1946, George Brooke II—with the aid of Morris Dixon, Thomas McCoy Jr. and George Strawbridge Sr. – supervised construction of the present course.

In 1980, Radnor teamed with the Brandywine Conservancy spearheaded by Betty Moran and George A. "Frolic" Weymouth. Under their leadership, the Radnor Races developed the "Racing for Open Space" theme.

For almost four decades, the Brandywine Conservancy has been the sole beneficiary of the Radnor Hunt Races. Nearly $4 million has been raised to fuel efforts protecting open space and water resources in southeastern Pennsylvania and northern Delaware. More than 64,000 acres have been permanently protected, including the Radnor course itself and surrounding property.

Moran was also known as an ardent world traveler, spending months at a time adventuring the globe. On one trip, she met and got to know Jeremy Irons, an English character actor with roles in Kafka and The Man in the Iron Mask but perhaps best known as the voice of "Scar" in The Lion King.

Irons, who lived in Ireland when Moran met him, was an activist and philanthropist like she was, and Moran told the Blood-Horse that she "really liked him," so much that she named a Danehill Dancer colt she bought in 2003 after him. Jeremy was a multiple-group 1-placed runner and stood at the Irish National Stud before he died in 2014.

## My little butterfly–

*Meet Betty Moran's English Grand National winner Papillon*

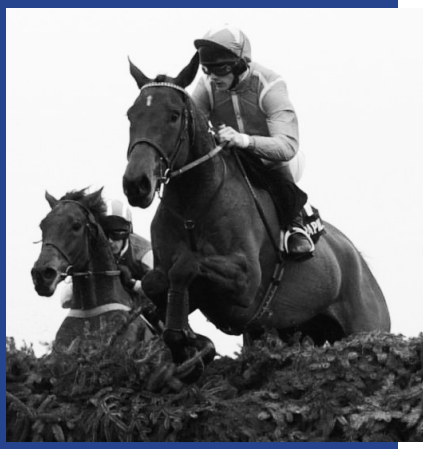
Foaled in Ireland in 1991, Papillon won the English Grand National for Betty Moran in 2000, becoming one of just nine National winners owned by an American.

Trained by Ted Walsh, Papillon was ridden by Walsh's son Ruby, then 20 and making his first start in the Aintree classic.

Papillon was nipped at the line by Bobbyjo in the 1998 Irish Grand National.

The two Irish runners won the next two English Nationals. L'Escargot had been the last Irish-based English National winner, in 1975.

Michael Moran said there was some concern about running in the National. "I'm pretty sure my mother didn't want Papillon to run," he said. "She knew anything could happen in that race, even more than other jump races. She worried about him getting hurt, and worried about her friend Ted's young son Ruby getting hurt.



**Papillon and Ruby Walsh in the 2020 Aintree Grand National.**
***Photo courtesy of Aintree Racecourse***

"She took a lot of convincing."

Papillon returned to Aintree in 2001, but he carried high-weight over heavy ground and was brought down at the 19th. Ruby Walsh remounted to finish fourth.

The game son of Lafontaine, by Sham, was retired at the end of the 2003 season, having earned his connections more than 400,000 pounds with nine wins in 39 lifetime starts.

All-time leading rider Ruby Walsh retired this spring. Ted had been 11-time champion amateur rider in Ireland.

Papillon retired at Ted Walsh's farm in County Kildare. He died at age 26 in 2017.

Another Brushwood-bred was stakes winner Bernstein. A son of Storm Cat bought in utero with the Affirmed mare La Affirmed out of the Keeneland November sale in 1996, Bernstein raced for Michael Tabor and Betty Moran, multiple group-placed before a lengthy shuttle stud career.

"Betty was an innovative force in racing," said daughter-in-law Anne Moran, part of the Radnor race committee. "She would jump on anything if somebody had a good idea." For instance, when she was actively involved running the meet, Betty Moran helped usher through a change of direction for the Radnor course, making it one of just two right-handed courses on the U.S. circuit.

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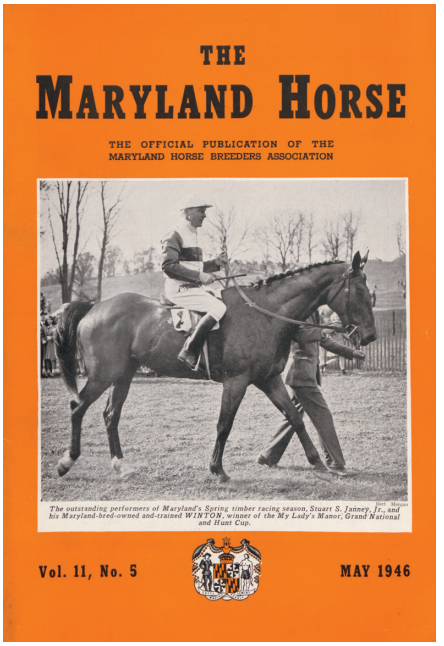
# Looking Back

## *75 years ago*

■ Timber racing returned after a four-year hiatus (forced by the war), and Stuart Janney Jr.'s Winton picked up where he left off: sweeping Maryland's big three—the My Lady's Manor, Grand National and Maryland Hunt Cup—for the second time.

The Grand National win was the third for the 12-year-old Maryland-bred. The "Jubilee" Maryland Hunt Cup, run over a slightly different course due to having to detour some ploughland (all the courses had to be rebuilt after other uses during the war) was a tour de force. An estimated 18,000 spectators were in attendance, despite the chilly weather.

■ Monmouth Park's inaugural summer meet, from June 10 to July 20, offered a dozen stakes, the richest at $25,000 added being the Monmouth Handicap and Choice, each at 1¼ miles. Juveniles had three opportunities as the Colleen for fillies would run June 19, the New Jersey Futurity for state-breds the following Wednesday, and the Sapling two weeks after that.


THE
MARYLAND HORSE
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MARYLAND HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
The outstanding performers of Maryland's Spring timber racing season, Stuart S. Janney, Jr., and his Maryland-bred-owned and-trained WINTON, winner of the My Lady's Manor, Grand National and Hunt Cup.
Vol. 11, No. 5
MAY 1946

■ Flat racing on a pre-war schedule had returned to Maryland, with wagering records falling at Bowie and Havre de Grace (five handles over $1 million were recorded at Bowie, a first in the history of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Association). Gustave Ring, a Washington, D.C., sportsman, was the leading owner at Bowie. The most impressive horse at Havre de Grace was Calumet Farm's Armed, who won the Philadelphia Handicap in 1:43⅕ while carrying 129 pounds, breaking the 1 1/16-mile track record set 12 years earlier by Cavalcade.

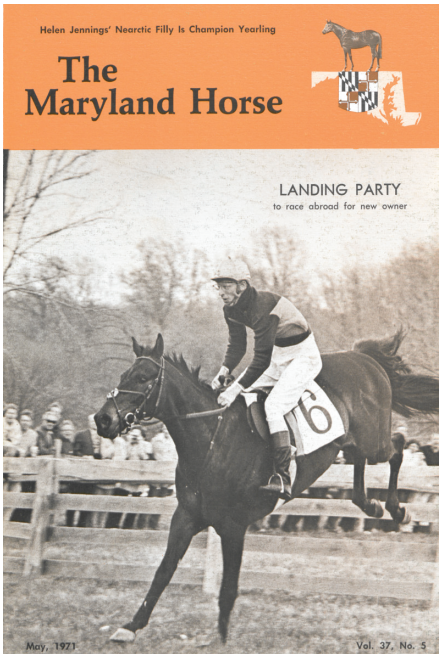
*It was the eighth start, and sixth win, of a championship campaign for Armed, who raced through September, winning 11 of 18 starts—his only off the board finish was in Pimlico's Jennings Handicap next out after the Havre de Grace race when fourth, beaten three-quarters of a length while toting 132 pounds. The following year he was the nation's Horse of the Year.*

■ With the opening of the racing season at Bowie came the debut of the Maryland Racing Commission's mobile laboratory, stationed on the grounds of each track. As soon as saliva samples were taken from horses, the saliva was injected into white mice; reactions of the mice determined whether substances were present.

Special exhibitions of the workings of the laboratory were given to visiting track and commission representatives from other states.

## *50 years ago*

■ "Few horses and riders ever have managed to make those four grinding miles and 22 difficult timber fences of the Maryland Hunt Cup look easy," led the *Maryland Horse* coverage of Landing Party and owner/rider Dr. John R.S. Fisher's second victory in the famed race. Winning by 10 lengths in 8:42, they cut a fifth of a second off the legendary Jay Trump's course record. The top three finishers of the race had all been previous winners—Landing Party in 1969, Haffaday in 1968 and Morning Mac in 1970.


Helen Jennings' Nearctic Filly Is Champion Yearling
The Maryland Horse
LANDING PARTY
to race abroad for new owner
May, 1971
Vol. 37, No. 5

Two weeks after the race Landing Party was sold to Thomas Garland Tinsley. The price, later disclosed to be $50,000, was supposedly the largest sum ever paid for a timber horse. Tinsley's only goal was to run in and win Aintree's Grand National.

*The Maryland-bred purchased by Fisher for $1,400 as an unraced 4-year-old shipped to England but failed to win in four starts, thus not qualifying for the English Grand National. Landing Party suffered a neck injury and brain damage in a fall in his final race in December 1971 at Fontwell, England, and never recovered. He was humanely destroyed at age 10 in May 1972.*

■ Kathy Kusner became the first "lady rider" in a sanctioned Maryland timber race when she guided Viking Stables' Whackerjack to a fifth in the Benjamin H. Murray Memorial at the Grand National timber races. A week later she made history again as the first woman to ride in the Maryland Hunt Cup, and once again finished fifth.

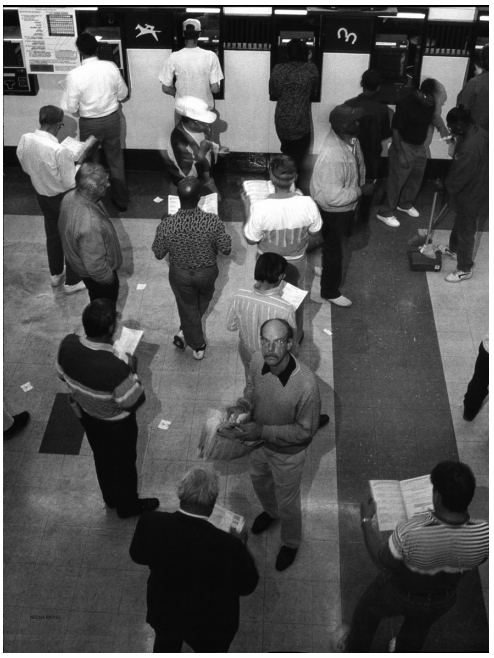
■ Sidney Watters Jr., trainer of sidelined 1970 2-year-old champion Hoist the Flag, judged the MHBA's annual yearling show. He selected Helen L. Jennings' Nearctic filly as champion.

# 25 years ago

■ Longtime *The Washington Post* racing columnist Andy Beyer, widely acknowledged as the guru of Thoroughbred handicapping, sat down with *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* editor Tim Capps to share his thoughts on the state of racing. The first question asked: "There has been a story around for years that you left Harvard just before final exams as a senior. Is it true?" Said Beyer: "It's fundamentally true. I was 100-1 in my Chaucer exam anyway, so when it fell on the day of the Belmont Stakes it was a good excuse. . ."

■ Romano Gucci, a homebred for retired dentist Herb Kushner and his wife Arlene of Rockville, Md., burst on the scene in New York. Trained by Dickie Dutrow, the Maryland-bred won his first four starts, including Aqueduct's Grade 3 Best Turn followed by the Grade 2 Gotham Stakes.

The Kushners owned the Triple Crown contender's sire Aaron's Concorde, who stood at Jerry and Laurie Calhoun's Summer Wind Farm in Libertytown, Md. Also a stakes winner, Aaron's Concorde was the first horse the Kushners purchased at auction, but had not been a hot commodity as a stallion. In 1995 he had one registered foal. But Romano Gucci, from his second small crop, changed all of that. By mid-April 1996, Aaron's Concorde had 34 contracts, with inquiries still coming in.



NEENA EWING COLLECTION/MARYLAND HORSE LIBRARY

**"The World According to Andy Beyer" was the cover story – the handicapping guru glances up at photographer Neena Ewing while plying his trade at the track.**

*In his next start, Romano Gucci finished third behind Unbridled's Song in the Wood Memorial Stakes-G2, but the campaign took its toll and he was off for eight months. He returned, recorded a win in the Hoover Stakes in his first start at 4, raced through 8 and added multiple stakes-placings while earning $465,524.*

*From 84 starters, Aaron's Concorde sired 63 winners (75 percent). Four were stakes winners.*

■ Jonathan Sheppard sent out five of the seven starters in the Grade 1 Robinson-Humphrey Coca-Cola Atlanta Hurdle Cup Stakes – getting first (Irish Approach, by a neck), second (Mistico-Chi), third (Confidente-Chi), fifth (Ninepins-GB) and sixth (T. V. Gold).

It was the fourth stakes win, and first graded, for Augustin Stable's Irish Approach. Sheppard also trained the winner's dam First Approach, a Grade 1 winner on the flat, and multiple graded stakes-winning half-sister Alice Springs (the 1995 Pennsylvania-bred older female) for breeder George Strawbridge Jr.

# 10 years ago

■ Six veteran buyers of 2-year-olds – active trainers Tim Hills, Rodney Jenkins, Robert "Butch" Reid and Rick Violette; retired trainer and bloodstock advisor Greg Gilchrist; and bloodstock agent Joe Brocklebank – each with major success stories from the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May sale, shared their thoughts about juvenile sales when asked such questions as their priorities in selection, how important are the works, and do they rely on the repository.

Said Parx-based Reid: "When I go to watch the breeze show, I don't even look at the catalog, because I don't want that to influence how I'm watching the horses train."

Longtime leading New York trainer Violette, who purchased sales-topping Read the Footnotes after the colt posted what was believed to be the fastest 3-furlong workout ever at a Fasig-Tipton 2-year-old sale (:33.20), noted: "Times matter to a point in that they don't have to be the fastest in the sale, but they have to show some ability."

And California-based trainer Gilchrist reflected: "Usually your first inclination is your best one. Sometimes you study and you study and you talk yourself out of something that maybe you shouldn't."

■ Two Laurel runners were making their first of many headlines.

Sylvia Heft's Maryland-bred Eighttofasttocatch, trained by Tim Keefe, got his first stakes win in the Harrison E. Johnson Memorial on closing day of the winter meet.

And Robert Cole's Rapid Redux, a $6,250 claim at Penn National the previous October, was 9-for-10 after the stable move. Since December he had eight consecutive wins, two of them just five days apart.

BOB WEBER

**Mark McDermott retired as the executive secretary of the PHBA after overseeing many changes in a 35-year career.**

*Eighttofasttocatch added 11 more stakes wins while racing through age 8, including four runnings of the Jennings Handicap, and earned $1,072,970. Rapid Redux made history when winning every single one of his next 14 starts.*

■ Mark McDermott, the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association's executive secretary for 35 years, was retiring June 1.

"Mark has been here almost since the inception of the program and has seen the organization through many dramatic changes," said PHBA president Brian Sanfratello. McDermott's tenure was the longest of any executive in a Thoroughbred breeders' organization in the U.S.

Former PHBA president Russell B. Jones Jr., in office at the time of McDermott's hiring, saluted his protégé: "I am truly proud that our selection 35 years ago has born such wonderful fruit. Mark has seen us through the institution of full-card simulcasting, telephone wagering, Internet wagering, the advent of slot machines and most recently, table games. In each instance his leadership has been invaluable."

**Rite of Spring.** Maryland's Worthington Farms (also home to the Maryland Hunt Cup timber race) offered an idyllic scene for mares and foals in 1966–much like it does today.

Photojournalist A. Aubrey Bodine, who worked at the Baltimore *Sun* for 50 years–from 1920 until his death in 1970–captured many scenes of Maryland horses, farms and racing. He was regarded worldwide as one of the finest pictorialists of the 20th century. *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* features his work in Past Time.

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